



Mortgage cut likely after Budget

By Lawrence Lever

A cut of up to one percentage point in mortgage rates next week looked increasingly likely yesterday. Some building society chiefs predicted a cut almost immediately after the Budget on Tuesday.

He said: "The industry is not unanimous on cutting rates immediately after the Budget. Some would prefer to wait."

The suggestion in the City was that the Halifax, the largest building society, would prefer to wait to see how big and how permanent any base rate was.



The kidnapped Frenchmen, reading their messages. From left, Jean-Paul Kaufmann, Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine.

Hostages make film appeal to France

From Robert Fisk Beirut

With appropriate political timing, the extremist Islamic Jihad movement has released a video film of three French hostages in Beirut, all appealing to the French Government to save their lives.

Guinness sues Argyll for 'defamation' in bid battle

By Cliff Feltham

One of the bitterest take-over battles the City has known took another acrimonious turn yesterday when Guinness issued writs for defamation against Mr James Gulliver and the board and financial advisers of his Argyll Group.

Guinness, which is locked in a struggle with Argyll for control of Distillers, said it had been forced into the move by reason of a regular flow of misleading and inaccurate statements which have been made in support of Argyll's bid for Distillers.

Service of the writs began yesterday, Sir David added: "The view is taken that enough is enough. You have to call a halt at some stage."

THE TIMES

Today's Times is 48 pages - the biggest issue produced from the new plant at Wapping and the biggest paper since the autumn.

Table listing various sections: Today's Times is 48 pages, On Monday there will be further major improvements, These changes are part of the expansion caused by the ending of restrictions following the paper's move to Wapping, A coupon to order The Times from your newsagent appears on page 2, Portfolio, GCHQ threat, Island gloom, Law reform.

Alleged rapist is named in House

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A Conservative backbencher and campaigner on child abuse used parliamentary privilege yesterday to name the Essex doctor alleged to have raped a girl aged eight and escaped prosecution because of evidential difficulties.

Third man charged in vicarage rape case

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

The men, charged with rape and aggravated burglary, were remanded by Mr Anthony Monk, chairman of the bench. Mr Robert Brown, representing the two men, both aged 21, made no application for bail, and no objection to a remand in custody.

Summertime makes the diarists uneasy

By Robin Young

Delve in a Dataday diary and you are likely to see that British Summer Time begins this weekend. Look in a Lettis diary, though, and you will probably be advised to wait a week before putting the clock forward.

Defiant Reagan defends arms aid

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Official and unofficial envoys have been sent to Lebanon and the area, the statement said. "This is nothing but a publicity manoeuvre aimed at convincing (the French people) that the French Government is serious in working for the release of the hostages, without showing any tangible change in its policy."

General slips away as Quito base stormed

Quito. (UPI/Reuters)

Crack commandos led by 16 Quito yesterday recaptured a Quito air base where the dismissed armed forces chief, General Frank Vargas, was demanding the overthrow of President Febrés Cordero.

Wheldon, TV star on and off screen, dies

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Sir Huw Wheldon, the broadcaster, who combined a high-level managerial career in the BBC with a popular television personality, died yesterday aged 69.

Bomb suspect freedom call is refused

The High Court in Dublin yesterday refused an application for the release of Evelyn Glenholmes, who faces extradition to Britain.

Miss Glenholmes, who was in court on a habeas corpus order, did not speak during the hearing. Her lawyers, who brought yesterday's release application on a legal technicality, are now expected to apply for bail on her behalf.

Only one decaffeinated coffee tastes as good as Nescafé Gold Blend

Nescafé Gold Blend advertisement featuring a can of coffee and text: 'Only one decaffeinated coffee tastes as good as Nescafé Gold Blend'.

Russia expels 'US spy envoy'

Moscow (AP) A second secretary at the American Embassy here has been ordered to leave the Soviet Union after being caught on an espionage mission, Tass said yesterday.

The agency said Mr Michael Sellers was detained in Moscow on Monday caught "in flagrante delicto" as he was having a clandestine meeting with a Soviet citizen recruited by US intelligence. An investigation produced evidence implicating the staff member of the US Embassy in intelligence-gathering activities incompatible with his official status.

As a rule, the embassy never issues comment on Soviet allegations of spying by US diplomats. Mr Sellers is the first American diplomat ordered to leave the Soviet Union since June, 1985, when the Soviet authorities detained Mr Paul Stombaugh, an expert on the Baltic states, on an alleged espionage mission and then expelled him.

Prior to Mr Stombaugh's expulsion, Moscow had ordered three American diplomats to leave the country on alleged espionage charges in 1983. On September 12, 1983, Mr Lou David Augustenborg was ordered to leave after the sale of his wife, Denise, were obtained outside Leningrad and accused of trying to collect what later Soviet newspaper reports called a "spy container".

Handwritten Arabic text: سكا من الأصل

Dismissal risk faces GCHQ workers who rejoined union

By George Hill

The threat of possible dismissal for some trade unionist Civil Servants at the Government Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham came a stage nearer yesterday.

Leaders of Civil Service unions were told by Sir Robert Armstrong, head of the Home Civil Service, that members there who had resigned from their unions during the dispute of 1984 and then rejoined would be liable to disciplinary action unless they resigned again.

Mr Alistair Graham, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, said after the meeting that the Government's action after months of delay had been a breach of natural justice.

"We were told last August that the Government were going to initiate the disciplinary process, and they have done nothing for six months. That seems to me quite monstrous."

Only about 20 GCHQ workers, who rejoined their unions after resigning with compensation of £1,000 when the decision was made to exclude union members from the headquarters, are still working at Cheltenham.

A number resigned after a High Court ruling that the Government could not legitimately require them to resign, a decision later reversed by the House of Lords.

There are another 35 unionists at Cheltenham who never resigned, the remnants of about 70 who from the first rejected the terms of service

introduced in 1984, which banned union membership.

Those workers are not in breach of contract and so are not at risk of disciplinary action.

They will be frozen in their existing posts, and fresh offers will be made to them of alternative Civil Service work or premature retirement with redundancy compensation.

Mr Graham asked yesterday: "Why draw this distinction? If they can live with a group of people who have always been trade union members, working in a top secret establishment doing their normal work, and can live with that indefinitely, then what is the problem?"

Sir Robert emphasized at the meeting with representatives of the Council of Civil Service Unions that dismissal was only one of the disciplinary options which faced the director of GCHQ.

Mr Graham said that at the request of the unions, Sir Robert had agreed that disciplinary action would not be taken until the representatives of the unions had seen the minister formally responsible for GCHQ, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary.

Last night, Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, said the Government's threat of disciplinary action was an attempt to pre-empt the deliberations of the European Commission of Human Rights on the dispute.

Hunting faces ban, says MP

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

Hunting will be banned if there is a hung Parliament after the next General Election, according to Sir Hector Hume, who was Minister for Sport from 1979 to 1981.

His claim that a Conservative defeat at the next election will mean "goodbye to hunting" appears in *Shooting and Conservation*, the magazine of the British Association for Shooting and Conservation, of which he is a vice-president.

Sir Hector, Conservative MP for Dumfries, says that Labour is committed to imposing legal bans on hare-coursing and the hunting of foxes and stags.

He says that Alliance MPs would "certainly" support a Labour Bill against hunting.

"If Labour wins the next election, or there is a balance of power with the Alliance, it is goodbye to hunting."

As well as opposing hunting and coursing Labour has made "suspicious noises" about shooting and fishing, Sir Hector writes. "This thin end of many wedges is all too obvious."

MP names alleged rapist

Continued from page 1

assault came to be revealed.

The four questions tabled by the MP ask the Attorney General if he will prosecute the named doctor for sexual offences involving the child. Details are sought on the prosecuting policy in cases involving sexual offences where the victim is a child and no other witness is available although corroborative evidence is available.

Mr Dickens asks how many cases in the past five years involving sexual offences against children have been considered by the DPP and how many have been dropped for lack of witnesses.

In a fourth question, the MP asks if the Attorney General will take over private prosecutions mounted after the police have decided against prosecution.

The doctor named by Mr Dickens is married and works for a group of hospitals in the South-east.

Yesterday Essex police said that naming any suspect would not lead to the reopening of the girl's case unless there was fresh evidence.

Evidence problems, page 12

Scourge of wartime London comes in from the cold



Britain's only V2 rocket was brought out of store at Wroughton, Wiltshire, yesterday to take its place in a new gallery to open in October at the Science Museum, South Kensington, London, devoted to the exploration of space. The missile, used by the Germans to attack London in the closing stages of the Second World War, will hang beside the only remaining example of the Black Arrow rocket, which launched Britain's X3 satellite in 1969, a Scout satellite launcher on loan from Nasa, and the Skylark solid-fuel rocket of the mid-1950s.

Trial for woman on Aids charge

A woman accused of spitting on a store employee although she knew she was a carrier of the Aids and hepatitis B viruses has been remanded in custody.

She is to go on trial in Edinburgh later this month.

When Rachel Townsley, aged 24, first appeared at Edinburgh Sheriff Court on March 7, her solicitor claimed the charge was not relevant.

But yesterday Mr Brian Gilfedder told Sheriff William Hook he was withdrawing his challenge.

Townsley, of Buchanan Street, Edinburgh, was sent for trial on March 24.

She has denied a charge that knowing she was a carrier of the Aids and hepatitis B viruses and that such conditions are transmitted by body fluids, she recklessly spat on Michael McConnache, an employee of Goldbergs in High Riggs, Edinburgh, to his danger on February 27.

She also denies an alternative charge of assaulting Mr McConnache by spitting in his face.

Steam bomb

Army bomb disposal experts yesterday abandoned a decision to carry out a controlled explosion on a 1,000lb wartime bomb found in an Essex gravel pit and instead steamed out the explosive.

Bluebell sale

The Bluebell Railway, the steam engine line in Sussex, is going public with shareholders' benefits to be in travel and dining concessions.

Renault check

Owners of 80,000 Renault 9 and Renault 11 models, are being asked to take them for a free check, after slight corrosion from salt was found in steering boxes in cars in the United States and Canada.

Gift for PC

Police Constable Roger Catm, aged 29, who was badly injured in the riots in Tottenham, north London, last year, was given £1,700 from local residents at a welcome-back party last night.

Holidays offer

Simon Weston, the Falklands survivor who was attacked while on holiday at a Spanish resort, has been offered two free trips by well-wishers, one to Portugal and one to Corfu, to help him forget his ordeal.

Lawyer freed

Mohammed Atif Bhatti, a barrister from Smethwick, West Midlands, who was jailed for three months for swindling a client, was freed by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Jeeps divorce

Mr Dickie Jeeps, aged 53, of Newmarket, Suffolk, a former Sports Council chairman and British Lions rugby captain, was awarded a divorce in London yesterday because of his wife's unreasonable behaviour.

PC accused

Police Constable Nheendra Patel, aged 25, of Kilburn, north-west London, was bailed until April 11 by Hampstead magistrates yesterday, accused of assaulting Mr Leon Hamilton in August 1984.

Ingrams steps down at Private Eye

By Alan Hamilton

Mr Richard Ingrams, custodian for the past 23 years of Lord Gnome's organ, *Private Eye*, is to step down from the editorship of the satirical magazine *Private Eye* in September, in favour of his deputy, Mr Ian Hislop.

Mr Ingrams, aged 48, has steered the *Eye* through a minefield of libel actions and circulation difficulties since 1963, the year he succeeded Mr Christopher Booker as editor when the magazine, launched in the new-found climate of

Tebbit sets radical mood for election

By Stephen Goodwin, Political Staff

Mr Norman Tebbit made plain yesterday that he wants the Conservatives to go into the next election with a programme for a "radical reforming" third term of office.

The party chairman answered Conservative critics of Thatcherism with a ringing declaration of support for the Prime Minister at the opening of the Conservative Central Council meeting in Felixstowe, Suffolk.

"Anyone can take the easy path. It takes no courage to judge the issues, delay the decisions, or to go for today's soft options," Mr Tebbit said, in a clear message to the growing body of "wets" and "consolidators" in the Cabinet.

Mrs Thatcher will address the 800-member council today in what will be her first important speech to party faithful since the Westland affair.

Four other Cabinet ministers, in addition to Mr Tebbit, will also speak during the two-day gathering.

Mr Tebbit told the council, largely composed of constituency party officers, that no other Prime Minister would have had the courage to outface what he said were the arrogant and over-mighty union leaders and "the town hall dictators". Privatization had to be extended, inner cities regenerated, and the education system repaired after "the damage inflicted by the militant union bosses", he said.

In a touch of familiar Tebbit rhetoric, the party chairman said that reform of local government finance would allow the democracy and responsibility which had "thwarted the Trots and militants in the unions to be unleashed on the self-same Trots and militants in the town halls too."

Mr Tebbit said that he hoped to see, beyond the next election, not just a Conservative government keeping socialism and the woolly-minded muddle and confusion of neo-socialists and ex-socialists at bay, but also "a radical reforming Conservative government helping Britain to catch and overtake our competitors abroad, not from a sense of rivalry but to equal and excel their capacity to create wealth, the wealth we need to improve life in Britain."

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, told the council that Parliament must ensure that adequate maximum sentences were available that could reflect the anger of society about offences such as drug trafficking and rape.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, also supported the need for exemplary sentences, in a speech to Oxford University Conservative Association last night.

Fulham by-election

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Alliance shows the strain

A slight drop in the Alliance's lead over the Conservatives in local by-election voting is recorded in results for Fulham, issued by the Liberal Party yesterday.

Its share of votes cast fell from 48.4 per cent to 41, while the Conservative share rose from 26.3 per cent to 32.4. Labour's share fell by two points to 22 per cent.

Mr Roger Liddle, SDP candidate in the Fulham by-election, attempted to get the Alliance bandwagon on the road yesterday, but ended up revealing an embarrassing glimpse of the historically frail relationship between his party and the Liberals locally.

With 300,000 SDP leaflets already delivered round the south-west London constituency and hours of door-knocking under his belt, Mr Liddle likened the local atmosphere to that of Hillhead in March 1982, scene of a famous SDP by-election victory.

"My estimate is that at least 40 per cent of the electorate are seriously considering changing their traditional party allegiance," he said.

Dr David Owen, the party leader, said there was already significant local interest in their campaign.

"That is one of the most critical things for us. Where you can develop interest in the campaign and the sort of feelings that came through in Hillhead, you gradually begin to shift opinion.

"One of our fears was that in an inner London constitu-

No retreat, Tories are told

By Stephen Goodwin, Political Staff

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Shipyard's sale approved

British Shipbuilders were given approval for the sale of the loss-making Hall Russell yard at Aberdeen.

After agreement a week ago on the sale of nuclear submarine hulls to Vickers, it is the last of the state corporation's shipyard yards to be disposed of.

The new owners of Hall Russell will be Aberdeen Shipbuilders Ltd, one of three bidders for the small naval yard. One unsuccessful contender was a group led by the yard's managing director, Mr Gordon Hilton.

British Shipbuilders actually lost £1.6 million under the terms of the sale as the yard, which employs more than 600 people, was beset with debts.

Announcing his consent, Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said British Shipbuilders had also accepted a limited contingent liability in the event of redundancies.

The £1.6 million loss was "considerably less" than it would have cost to close the yard with consequent redundancy payments, Mr Channon emphasized.

NHS staff falls for third year

By Nicholas Thomas, Social Services Correspondent

The National Health Service is employing 10,000 fewer staff than a year ago, the third successive year that NHS staff numbers have fallen, according to figures released yesterday by the Department of Health and Social Security.

In the coming year, staff numbers are expected to increase by 3,000 to 4,000, most of them nurses, as the total employed climbs back to 789,500, still about 6,500 below the staff ceiling set by ministers for the financial year just ending.

How far the figures represent a genuine cut in staff is not yet clear as the privatization of cleaning, catering and laundry staff, who do not count in NHS totals, is proceeding more quickly than expected.

Figures to be announced next week by Mr Roy Whitley, Parliamentary Secretary for Health, will show that savings from competitive tendering have risen from £29 million to £40 million.

The latest staff figures came as Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced that health authorities plans for next year showed "there would be a significant expansion in services."

Spending on the NHS in England is to rise by £650 million, with health authorities expected to make £150 million in efficiency savings through competitive tendering, energy conservation and better supplies management.

They are also expected to raise £130 million from the sale of surplus land and property, including sales of nurses' homes, which Mr Fowler said would take total capital spending to more than £900 million, in spite of a slight fall in real terms in centrally-funded capital expenditure.

Mr Fowler said progress could be found in capital programmes, including a £24 million district general hospital opening in Bransgrove, Hereford and Worcester, in the autumn, and a new district general hospital for Southport, Merseyside.

Community care programmes were also progressing, with only four children expected to be remaining in mentally handicapped hospitals in the northern region by July, and no children in similar hospitals in the south-east Thames region by March 1987.

Mr Fowler said that all regions were also planning important developments in acute services, with an increase in hip and joint replacements and coronary artery and renal dialysis, and a new children's bone marrow transplant unit opening in Bristol.

Dreadnought to start, page 4

Maxwell seeking Sogat funds writ

By Rohn Young and Richard Evans

Journalists on Mr Robert Maxwell's Scottish *Daily Record* and *Sunday Mail* voted by a majority of four to one for an immediate strike yesterday.

And Mr Maxwell's Mirror Group Newspapers started proceedings seeking a writ of sequestration against the print union, Sogat 82.

The papers have not been produced this week, and on Thursday the company's 1,000 workers were sacked. The 600 employees who are members of Sogat were told they had dismissed themselves on Monday for refusing to print an editorial critical of the union.

Mr Maxwell has said that there must be a 30 per cent reduction in the workforce or an immediate agreement on new working practices to make the Scottish papers more competitive.

His action against Sogat alleges that the union has broken a High Court injunction ordering it to call off the industrial action which has halted production of the *Daily Record*.

Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, yesterday attacked Mr Neil Kinnock's proposal for government control of "monopoly power" in Britain's newspaper industry.

He said that the Labour leader's speech to print workers on Thursday night in which he referred to "Stag Wapping" and "Schloss Murdoch" was "probably approved by Mr Benn."

Dr Owen, speaking at a Fulham by-election Press conference, accused Mr Kinnock of failing to understand that changes in the newspaper world over the last year, starting with Mr Eddy Shah and moving on to Mr Murdoch's newspapers, were not going to help the big monopolies solely.

The changes would probably lead to a new thriving diversity of publications.



Mr Ingrams, editor for 23 years.

New benefits deal for VSO workers

People who work for organizations such as Voluntary Service Overseas will be able to pay a special rate of national insurance contributions from April 6 to entitle them to social security benefits on their return, Mr Anthony Newton, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, announced yesterday.

Such volunteers were previously debarred from receiving unemployment, sickness and other benefits on returning and were also prohibited while abroad from paying the national insurance contributions to qualify.

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Drunk order by WC

Peak-time holidays 'scarcer'

Vets want airguns

Hostess paid £1000 to escort prince

New benefits deal for VSO workers

Mountb

Drunken coach driver ordered off vehicle by woman passenger

A drunken coach driver's antics so terrified a woman passenger that she grabbed the handbrake and ordered him from the vehicle, a court was told yesterday.

Mrs Diana Collins, aged 40, whose husband is a bus driver, took charge after Patrick Runciman, aged 56, collided with two cars, one a police car, hit the kerb at least three times, nodded forward over the wheel, incurred the wrath of motorway drivers by driving erratically and switching lanes and repeatedly wound down the window for air, as if to stop himself from falling asleep.

Runciman, a former Naval petty officer and merchant seaman, was banned for five years and fined a total of £1,200 by magistrates at Exeter after admitting driving with excess alcohol, driving recklessly and failing to stop after an accident.

The court was told that on a stop at Bristol during the London-Exeter run in a double-decker National Express coach on January 13, Runciman drank half a bottle

of whisky to calm his nerves. Runciman, of Church Road, Alphington, Exeter, said after the case: "It's fair. I was worried about going to jail. You really have to keep your wits about you. The only reason I was all over the lanes was because the wind was blowing me."

Miss Carolyn Mellanby, for the prosecution, said that Runciman's driving endangered 32 passengers. Other motorists had hooted at the coach as it was being driven erratically on the M5.

Passengers became increasingly frightened when the coach reached Exeter, hit the kerb and collided with the two cars. Mrs Collins, of Exmouth, Devon, became "absolutely terrified", Miss Mellanby said.

"And I don't think she was the only passenger to have that feeling. She plucked up the courage to get up from her seat near the front, lean across the driver and grab the handbrake - an act of some courage."

The vehicle came to a stop and Runciman asked what she

was doing. Mrs Collins smelled whisky on his breath and pressed the button to turn off the engine. She then ordered him from the coach.

Eventually, he climbed back in, complaining he had "flu". "Miraculously, the coach arrived at the depot without further incident," Miss Mellanby said.

Passengers then complained to an inspector about Runciman's driving. Miss Mellanby, who said that the collisions caused extensive damage to the cars, told the court that a breath test showed him to be three times over the legal limit.

Mr Paul Willoughby, for the defence, said that Runciman was warned at Bristol by other drivers that wind conditions to Exeter were "atrocious". He added: "His nerve completely cracked. He couldn't face the drive to Exeter and he attacked the bottle of whisky, using it as an anaesthetic. He knows he took a terrible risk and he knows that he drove very badly and dangerously."

Runciman was now unemployed and possibly would remain so.



Mr Basil Handford, aged 85, with pupils of Lancing College, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, outside the new girls' house named in his honour which was officially opened yesterday. Mr Handford's connection with the college goes back to 1914, when he and Evelyn Waugh were pupils. Girls were admitted for the first time in 1978 (Photograph: John Voos).

Walter Mitty robber jailed for six years

A former public schoolboy who carried out an armed robbery at a building society, disguised in a floppy hat and sunglasses, was jailed for six years yesterday.

Philip Vickers, of Burghley Road, St Andrews, Bristol, had admitted, at an earlier court hearing, robbing a cashier of £1,120 at the National and Provincial Society's branch in Oxford.

Mr Ian Alexander, for the prosecution, told Oxford Crown Court that Vickers pointed a starting pistol at the cashier and demanded money. Vickers told police: "It was an act of desperation. I was homeless, broke and had nowhere to stay."

Mr Peter Herrity, for the defence, said Vickers seemed to have a Walter Mitty character. He regretted having frightened anyone during the robbery.

Computer 'purge' of all old crimes

Thousands of people with criminal records based upon minor crimes committed up to 50 years ago are to have their names removed from the police national computer, it was disclosed last night.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said that the substantial reduction in the number of criminal records would not impair police operations.

There are currently almost five million names on police records, but many of them relate to minor breaches of the law stretching back before the Second World War.

Until now records of all people who committed a single minor offence were kept on the computer until the offender was aged 40. Records for those who committed more than one offence were not removed until they were aged 70.

Damages for girl mauled by lioness

A young girl who was mauled by a lioness in June 1978 was yesterday awarded damages of £8,636 in the High Court in Birmingham.

Katherine Graham, now aged 12, of Riverside, Alcester, Warwickshire, received severe facial injuries requiring 140 stitches.

Mr Anthony Hughes, for the girl, said the lioness had mauled her as she tried to have her photograph taken in its booth at the Alcester carnival.

Its owner, Mr Graham-Jones, aged 70, who runs a zoological park near Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, had accepted liability. The deputy High Court judge, Mr Michael Pratt, QC, said part of the award had been made because Katherine needed a bypass operation to prevent her eyes watering.

Peak-time holidays 'scarcer'

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Package holidays in the peak season from mid-July to the end of August are becoming harder to find because of the boom in early bookings.

It is also becoming harder to secure a first-choice holiday, two leading travel agents have said. Pickfords Travel has launched a brochure offering about 75,000 extra holidays for the peak season.

It has bought the holidays from a number of tour operators and the brochure lists 400 hotels in more than 130 resorts. The cheapest holiday is £95 for a week at full board.

Thomson Holidays, one of several operators progressively increasing holiday capacity to meet additional demand, says that while it is more difficult for anyone to secure their first-choice destination, hotel and flight, there are still many thousands of holidays left during the peak season.

But those wanting a specific holiday are already moving back into June bookings to secure their choice. Tour operators are saying that there is little chance of putting on many additional holidays over the peak period because aircraft have been fully booked.

MP wins legal dog fight

Mrs Sally Oppenheim, a former Consumer Affairs minister, is to talk to the owner of a Doberman pinscher to work out an area of Regent's Park where they can walk their dogs without meeting.

The Dobermann, Toffee, and Mrs Oppenheim's Jack Russells, Spot and Snoopy, were being walked by housekeepers when they were involved in a fight. Spot and Snoopy were injured.

Mrs Marjia Herman, of Belsize Park, Hampstead, north London, admitted permitting Toffee to injure another dog and was given a conditional discharge for six months at West London Magistrates' Court yesterday.

The dog's owner, Mrs Branko Springer, of York Terrace Estate, Camden Town, was ordered to keep the dog under control.

Mrs Oppenheim, MP for Gloucester, said after the case that it was the third time her dogs had been attacked by Toffee. "We are delighted with the outcome, which is satisfactory as far as we are concerned. There was never any question of having this dog put down."

She was going to discuss areas of the park in which they could walk their dogs.

'Money no object for Satanist'

A disc jockey said self-confessed Satanist Derry Mainwaring Knight offered him girls, expensive clothes and fast cars with "money no object".

And Mr Clive Bygrave told Maidstone Crown Court that Mr Knight said he knew a house of young women in Felbridge, Surrey, "who would look after me".

Mr Bygrave, of East Grinstead, a disc jockey on the luxury liners Canberra and the Sea Princess, said Mr Knight wanted him to front "the biggest disco road shows the South had ever seen".

"Knight said he had £5,000 in his pocket which he parted and said I could have there and then."

"I thought it was a good offer but probably too good to be true", Mr Bygrave said. And another witness said Mr Knight said he ran a prostitution racket in London while he was obtaining more than £200,000 from committed Christians.

Mr Knight also had several prostitutes in Southend, Essex, as "friends", according to his lodger, disc jockey Simon Willis.

But Mr Willis refused to give the court details of Mr Knight's satanic connections because of "danger to himself".

Mr Knight is charged with obtaining more than £200,000 by deception from committed Christians. He claimed the money was to help to free him from the devil and become a Christian.

But the prosecution allege the money was spent on fast cars, prostitutes and high living.

Another witness, Mrs Irene Cranham, a client at the home of Mr Knight's mistress, Angela Murdoch, said Angela suddenly acquired a £300 sequinned jumper, dresses, coats and skirts.

Mrs Cranham said Mr Knight once gave her three £50 notes he peeled from a large wad and she saw Mr Knight driving many fast and expensive cars and once bought Angela a Porsche for her birthday.

The trial was adjourned until Monday.

Vets want licensing of airguns and crossbows

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The British Veterinary Association yesterday called for a licensing system for airguns and crossbows to counter widespread and wanton cruelty to household pets and farm livestock, and possible risks to humans.

Mr Jim Alcock, of the association, said that the Home Office campaign launched three years ago had proved completely ineffective.

In 1984, the latest for which figures were available, the number of indictable offences involving airguns rose to 5,540.

The use of steel pellets, instead of lead, had increased muzzle velocity by two or three times, and the weapons were considerably more dangerous than they used to be.

"Armed trespass, wandering around the edges of towns shooting at everything in sight, is totally illegal", Mr Alcock said.

"Yet it occurs on a massive scale and nothing whatever is done about it."

The association also warned that the nation's health was jeopardized by short-sighted reductions in funds for animal disease research.

Cutting resources would reduce the capability to check outbreaks of diseases such as tuberculosis and rabies.

Hostess 'paid £1000 to escort prince'

A brothel hostess was paid £1,000 to escort a crown prince and attend parties thrown by television and sporting celebrities, her defence solicitor said yesterday.

'Strangler' convicted of five sex attacks

A sex attacker known as "The Strangler" was convicted yesterday of a series of brutal attacks on women in Hornsey, Holloway and Walthamstow, in north and east London.

Tony Bromwich, aged 19, looped lengths of washing line or electric flex around the necks of five victims, and tightened them, the Central Criminal Court was told.

Bromwich, a trainee printer, of Buxton Road, Upper Holloway, was convicted of attacking victims, aged from 15 to 33, and rendering them incapable of resistance by choking and suffocating them.

He was also found guilty of causing grievous bodily harm to one victim, and of having a length of rope as an offensive weapon.

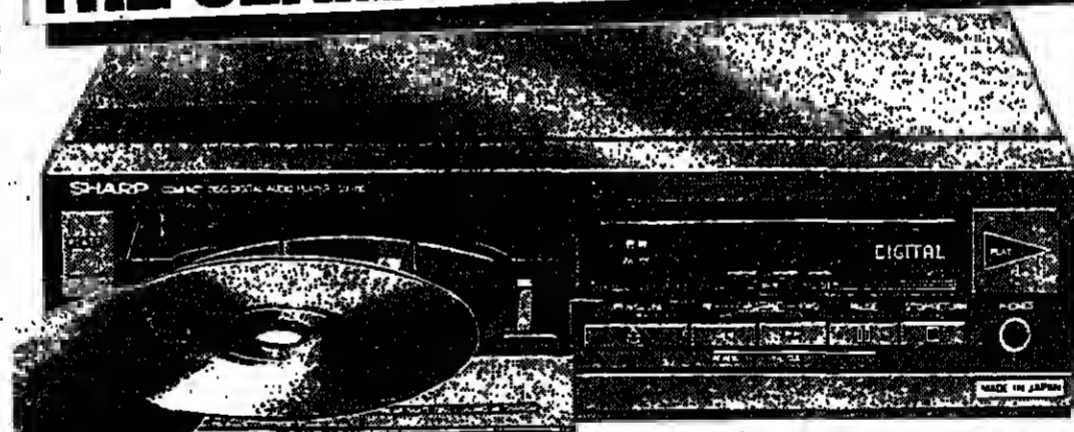
The Common Serjeant, Judge Thomas Pigot, QC, remanded him in custody for psychiatric reports.

Mr Michael Sayers, for the prosecution, said that Bromwich stalked the streets at night seeking victims walking alone in deserted spots.

He crept up behind them and began to strangle them, dragging them to the ground and sexually assaulting them.

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Lawyers back reform of complaints review system

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Law Society's council yesterday approved the creation of a Solicitors' Complaints Bureau to restore public confidence in the way it handles the 9,000 complaints received each year.

The bureau was one of two options proposed by independent management consultants as ways of reforming the complaints machinery. It will mean complaints handling will be "distanced" from the Law Society.

The Master of the Rolls, Sir John Donaldson, will be invited to consider how many lay people should sit on the committees to investigate and adjudicate on complaints and to nominate them.

The new bureau, likely to start work in January next year, will probably be housed at Victoria where the Law Society is negotiating for new premises.

It will have a staff of about 150, an increase of a third on the size of the existing professional purposes department, which deals with complaints. That department will be disbanded.

The Bureau will also take on the powers the Law Society has just acquired under the Administration of Justice Act 1985 to tackle complaints of "shoddy work" and to order a solicitor to remit all or part of his fees.

Solicitors will face a substantial rise in the cost of their practising certificates, now £125 a year, to pay for the Bureau.

The key element of the non-statutory bureau is lay representation on the committee which will reject or accept complaints.

The Government's cut in eligibility for the legal aid scheme which came into force last week, was attacked by the Law Society yesterday. It will

ITV joins daytime television battle

By David Hewson Arts Correspondent

The BBC and independent television are preparing to do battle for the last bastion of television-free family life, the daytime. By the autumn both channels expect to be on air from breakfast time until after midnight every day.

Independent television, which has yet to receive permission for its planned extension of hours, has fired the first warning shot by luring Mr William Smethurst, producer of the BBC radio series *The Archers*, to join Central TV as executive drama series producer.

One of his initial tasks will be to oversee the *Crossroads* series, but he is also expected to work on a new daytime soap opera.

The corporation, which has between £6 million and £8 million only to pay for its daytime schedules, cannot afford to start its own soap opera and will have to rely on repeats.

It is preparing a new daily show which will give viewers the chance to air their opinions, and re-runs of popular dramas such as *Poldark* and *A Horseman Riding By*.

The corporation is anxious to start running a service through the day to improve its overall share of the audience.

As part of the changes the BBC's breakfast programme is to be relaunched as a hard news programme and some of its "softer" aspects moved to the main daytime schedules.

The BBC has rejected an offer from the American channel, CNN, which could have given it 24-hour coverage.

Independent television is expected to approach the Independent Broadcasting Authority shortly for permission to start a service which goes on air after the closedown of TV-am and runs through the day.

Unemployment and changing work habits, which have led more people to work from home, have convinced broadcasters that they have a duty to extend their output.

Pennies for a century's perils at sea

From Tim Jones Cardiff

When thousands contribute to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution's flag day on Tuesday, the service will be remembering the worst disaster in its history a hundred years ago.

The deaths of 27 rescuers led to the establishment in Britain of charity flag days.

It happened after the barque *The Mexico*, from Hamburg, struck a sandbank in savage seas off the Lancashire coast.

Her distress signals were answered by three lifeboats. The *Eliza Fenley*, the *Southport* and the *St. Anne's*, reached the *Mexico* first but capsized. The *Laura Janet*, sent from St Anne's, reached a point two miles from Southport and disappeared.

Only the Charles Biggs from Lytham managed to reach the stricken barque to pluck 12 people from her storm-lashed deck and return them to shore.

By day's end, 27 lifeboatmen had been lost, leaving 16 widows and 50 orphans. Disasters had occurred before, but the scale of the tragedy struck a chord with the public.

Queen Victoria and the German Emperor contributed to the disaster fund which raised £50,000, but Sir Charles Macara, a Manchester cotton magnate, realized that many people would be willing to contribute regularly.

He instigated, in 1891, the first Lifeboat Saturday when 30,000 people watched a parade of bands and boats through Manchester, and the launching of two lifeboats into an artificial lake in Bellevue Gardens.

The idea upon which Lifeboat Saturday was based is the foundation upon which modern fund-raising has grown and the annual parades continue for some years.

The First World War caused a serious fall in voluntary subscriptions and it was that financial crisis which led to the printing and sale of flags from street collectors.

Last year, the London collectors raised £198,000 to contribute to the £1.2 million collected nationally. Although the service, which costs more than £23 million a year to run, receives most of its money from legacies, flag days are a vital part of its income: a new lifeboat can cost £480,000. Last year was the busiest ever: lifeboats were launched 3,813 times to save 1,623 lives.

The loose change that Londoners will give on Tuesday in exchange for the little paper flag is a small price for the bravery of the volunteers who risk their lives for those in peril on the sea.



Lifeboat Saturday being held in Manchester in the 1890s (top), with (left) its founder, Sir Charles Macara, and a modern flag day in London.

Councils' home law immunity 'must end'

By Christopher Warsaw Property Correspondent

The immunity protecting local authorities from housing and public health law should be ended, Lord Pitt of Hampstead, chairman of the British Medical Association, said in London yesterday.

The immunity enabled the Government and many local authorities to close their eyes to the problems of bad housing and the level of resources needed to put them right.

Lord Pitt, speaking at a conference on housing in the London borough of Tower Hamlets, argued that council tenants living in unhealthy and dangerous conditions should have the same protection against their landlords as those living in privately rented and housing-association flats and houses.

He said that the Public Health and Safety Acts, which offered protection to the tenants of private landlords, could not be used by housing council tenants, and so a householder taking up a council tenancy lost important rights.

Council tenants could seek redress under the law only if they began an action themselves.

"This is totally unfair, and the law should be changed," Lord Pitt said.

In many cases, Lord Pitt said, there was a direct link between the poor health of some council tenants and the poor housing they lived in. He claimed that Tower Hamlets needed £100 million to bring its 18,000 homes up to scratch: its capital allocation for 1985-86 was only £14 million.

Vice girl, 15, 'was given council flat'

A Wolverhampton prostitute aged 15 had her own council flat, a juvenile court in the city was told yesterday.

She had been granted the tenancy because the council thought she was 18.

She also had convictions as an adult for prostitution before it was discovered by police that she was a juvenile. But the name she had given to police was false and further inquiries established that she was only 15.

The girl, now in care, admitted loitering for prostitution, and was given a conditional discharge for 12 months.

Last night the council's housing committee said that it would investigate how she was allotted the flat.

Ruling allows claim by lost seamen's families

A High Court judge in London yesterday paved the way for relatives of English seamen who drowned when the ore carrier *Derbyshire* went down with all hands in a storm off Japan in 1980, to sue the ship's owners.

Mr Justice Sheen, in the Admiralty Court, dismissed as "absurd" a legal proposition by the owners of the *Derbyshire*, which, if upheld, would have prevented families of the 44 dead seamen from seeking compensation under the Employer's Liability (Defective Equipment) Act 1969.

Yesterday's ruling was in the case brought by the relatives of Leo Colman, a crewman, aged 33, of Redcar, Cleveland. They are seeking compensation from Bibby Tankers, the ship's owners.

Mr Colman's family claimed that his death was due to a "defect in equipment provided by his employers."

The owners argued in their defence that a ship could not be legally classed as "equipment".

The judge said that it would be "manifestly absurd" not to regard a ship as "equipment".

It is alleged in the Colman action that the defect in equipment was "wholly or partly attributable" to the shipbuilders, Swan Hunter, but that Mr Colman's death must be deemed to be due to negligence on the part of Bibby Tankers, without prejudice to any remedy Bibby's might have against Swan Hunter.

Patients given promise as Dreadnought shuts

The 100-year-old Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital in Greenwich, south-east London, is to close at the end of the month after promises by West Lambeth Health Authority that seamen will continue to receive priority treatment at St. Thomas' hospital in London to which facilities are being transferred.

Greenwich Borough Council yesterday withdrew an application to have the closure decision quashed after assurances from West Lambeth that a consultant would be appointed to the unit and that money transferred from Greenwich Health Authority to run the service would be protected and not subject to cuts at the hospital.

The decision to close the Dreadnought—named after the hospital ship in the Thames which originally served seamen—has been opposed by the National Union of Seamen, which has staged a series of one-day, ferry strikes over the closure, and by health service unions. Health ministers claim the move will save the Greenwich Health Authority £800,000 a year and provide seamen with a better service.

Mr Michael Rich, QC, for Greenwich council said the application had been made because seamen had been 100% "Thomas" but had not received the priority promised.

Letters, page 13

Paratroopers win cut in sentence

A further two paratroopers jailed last December for indecency against a woman soldier won reductions in their sentences in the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The decisions followed successful appeals against sentence last month by two other members of the 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, who had been convicted of indecent assault.

At last month's hearing, Lord Justice Watkins described the victim, a private in the Women's Royal Army Corps, as "dissolute and sexually depraved".

Yesterday the judge, sitting with Mr Justice Garland and Mr Justice Ognall, allowed appeals by Private Ian Edwards, aged 22, and Corporal Stephen Hulme, aged 28, who had been jailed for nine and 12 months respectively. Both sentences were cut to six months.

Appeals by Private Edwin Lilley, aged 22, and Lance Corporal Norman Quinn, aged 23, against their six-month sentences were dismissed.

The victim alleged she had been raped at Bulford Camp, Wiltshire, but the eight paratroopers were acquitted of the charge. Five others were cleared completely of all sex charges against them.

None of the soldiers was at the hearing.

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PARLIAMENT MARCH 14 1986 NHS • Childbirth

Better management brings savings

Improved management of the national health service was beginning to pay off, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said during a Commons debate on management reorganization.

He said that cash savings of £150 million were likely through value-for-money measures.

Mr Steven Norris (Oxford East, C) moved that the House regard the report of the National Health Service Management Inquiry as an invaluable guide to efficient management of resources and welcomed the appointment of general managers at regional, district and unit level.

There was genuine and understandable concern from the Royal College of Nursing and the BMA but the picture in reality might not be as it appeared to them.

Unless the NHS management board soon demonstrated that it was making a positive contribution towards a more effective and efficient management of the service, the sooner yet another layer of bureaucracy went the better he would be pleased.

Mrs Renee Short (Wolverhampton North East, Lab) said that sometimes nurses caring for patients were expected to be subjected to managers who knew nothing about nursing. This created hostility.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said if good management was essential in small or medium-sized businesses, it was doubly essential in a service the size of the NHS. His concern was not the dedication of the staff but how this asset was managed, and past experience had not always been encouraging.

Many of the general managers being appointed came from within the service. In the coming years management skills within the health service would have to be developed. He would have liked to have seen more nurses appointed.

I believe we have made significant progress (he said) towards improving NHS management.

This year the improvements made in efficiency had resulted in £120 million being released for use elsewhere in the service.

He had now approved the short-term plans for 1986/7 which would mean a significant expansion in services, more patients would be treated with more advanced techniques and more care in the community.

In the coming year, there would be an extra £650 million, representing a rise of 6.7 per cent, against an increase in general inflation of 4.5 per cent. Improved management was beginning to pay off.

Cash savings of £150 million were likely through value-for-money measures, such as energy conservation, better management of supplies and tendering for support services.

Mr Michael Meadowcroft (Leeds West, L) said the root of the problem from the Government's point of view was control, not just management. There had been an obsession with uniformity.

There was no intrinsic reason why there could not be regional authorities with powers to tax and control services which were clearly regional.

Mr Roger Sims (Chislehurst, C) said management could be drawn from a wide range of disciplines.

It was not surprising that there had been some grumbles about implementation of Griffiths, but that there had been so few.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said the fine words of the Secretary of State about the skill and dedication of the workers in the health service were far removed from what was happening around the country.

Words cost nothing. The dedication and loyalty was rewarded with peanuts, pay packets while hospitals were crumbling, paint peeling, hospitals and wards closing, and staff were leaving.

Mrs Edwina Currie (South Derbyshire, C) said the remarks of some senior ministers trade unionists about Griffiths had been disgraceful. There was nothing whatever to prevent nurses applying for a general manager post but she suspected the reason they did not do so was because they liked nursing on the wards.

Dr John Marek, an Opposition spokesman on health, said that, initially, the Griffiths report led the nursing profession to believe that there would be no problem for their conditions of work, promotion prospects or their ability to talk with superiors about problems.

In practice, though, it was becoming clear that managers often had no nursing experience had to cope with additional responsibilities, or simply were not high enough up the management ladder to be able to deal effectively with difficulties. Such systems could not be allowed to continue.

Mr Nigel Spensley (Newham South, Lab) said it might well be that in the NHS a greater emphasis on line management and a greater sharpening up of responsibility was needed, particularly in the situation of scarce resources or the use of those available. But those with the right qualifications and experience should be the ones to help to do the job.

Mr Raymond Whitney, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Services, said his department was not talking about management for management's sake but about management for the patients' sake. No such visit took place, Mr John Lee, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, said in replying to a debate about the presence in Britain of Mr Clarence Robinson, a United States government consultant.

The matter was raised by Mr Tony Dawell (Lambeth, Lab), who said that Mr Paul Ripper, a Pentagon technology specialist commissioned two companies to carry out a survey of Nato countries to discover SDF-related technologies that would have to be brought into the country might have to be classified.

Are we British (he went on) really going to allow ourselves to have our advanced technology milked by the Americans?

Funding legal aid centres

Just as legal aid centres originated because of the perceived local need for help, the best sources of funds remained in their own localities. Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Solicitor General, said in rejecting a suggestion that they were agencies for which central government should assume responsibility.

Because those who provided the money tended to wish to have some control over the operation of whatever was being funded it was better that those local centres responding to local needs should look to the local authorities and other local sources for funds.

Mr David Clelland (Tyne Bridge, Lab), who opened the debate, said the Government's regressive policies towards local authorities had led to a situation where many councils had been squeezed beyond the squeaking of the pipes.

Mothers' wishes should be respected

All in all women doctors already provided a substantial proportion of obstetric and gynaecological care in this country and would provide even more in the future, Mr Raymond Whitney, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said in a debate in which Mr Brian Sedgeman (Hackney South, and Shoreditch, Lab) referred to the cases of Mrs Wendy Savage and Miss Pauline Bousquet.

Mr Whitney said that the situation was not at all as bad as portrayed by Mr Sedgeman, a characteristically alarmist way. The red herrings he had sought to introduce were quite unjustified. The position of women patients and women doctors in the important disciplines of obstetrics and gynaecology were secure and guaranteed.

Mr Sedgeman complained of the danger to patient care caused by the way the medical establishment had treated Mrs Savage of the London Hospital, and Miss Bousquet, a consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist who used to work at the Mothers' Hospital, Hackney. He spoke of personal ambition, spite and avarice which tended to give the lie to the image of the medical profession created by soap operas.

Mr Whitney said it would be improper to make comments of any nature about these individual cases. On natural childbirth, all obstetricians should take account of the preference of women whose deliveries were under their care, so far as their professional judgement allowed.

US consultant visits Britain

It would have been a matter of considerable concern if a visit involving access to classified material had taken place without the necessary authorisation, Mr John Lee, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, said in replying to a debate about the presence in Britain of Mr Clarence Robinson, a United States government consultant.

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Mandela and Botha in meetings with Commonwealth team

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The Commonwealth "eminent persons group", which yesterday completed a secretive fortnight's visit to South Africa, has met both President Botha and Mr. Nelson Mandela, the jailed leader of the outlawed African National Congress.

The President's Office, the Ministry of Justice, and the Department of Prisons all declined either to confirm or deny the meetings officially, but *The Times* is reliably informed that both meetings took place last Wednesday.

It is presumed that the meeting with Mr. Mandela was in the Pollsmoor prison outside Cape Town. It is not clear whether all seven members of the group, which includes Lord Barber, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, were present.

A few foreign journalists, academics and politicians have been allowed to see Mr. Mandela in the past, but the meeting with the group is clearly the most important to date. It could be seen as *de facto* acknowledgement by Pretoria of Mr. Mandela's status as a political leader.

Part of the group's brief is to explore the possibility of Commonwealth mediation between Pretoria and black leaders. It is also due to report to Commonwealth states in June on the genuineness of Pretoria's claim to be moving away from apartheid. In the light of the report, member states will decide whether to impose economic sanctions.

Recently, Pretoria has turned a blind eye as black leaders here, as well as members of white liberal groups, have made the pilgrimage to Lusaka, the Zambian capital, to meet ANC leaders in exile.

Last week, seven leaders of the Congress of South African Trade Unions, which has some 500,000 members, held talks with the ANC in Lusaka. Mr. Oliver Tambo, the ANC president, and Mr. Joe Slovo, a senior white official in the South African Communist Party, which is allied to the ANC, took part.

Witches burnt: At least nine people are reported to have been burnt to death as witches by chanting mobs of youngsters calling themselves "comrades", in the Naphum district in northern Transvaal.

The chief councillor of the local tribal authority, Mr. France Mathaba, said the burnings were "a bad reflection of the political direction of these young people". Police confirmed the incident.

Boat may show how Disciples lived



A crane lifting a boat, dating from about the time of Christ, at the site where it was discovered on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. The vessel is encased in plastic sheets to prevent it from disintegrating on its way to a settlement near by where it will go on permanent display after lengthy chemical treatment. The boat, the only complete craft from the period to be found, was discovered as a result of a lack of winter rainfall in the area (Jan Murray writes from Jerusalem).

When it has been cleaned and preserved it is expected to give an insight into the way Galilee fishermen like Christ's Disciples worked. Remains of at least two other boats have been found in the mud near by.

It is thought that the site at Ginnosar, about 10 miles north of Tiberias, was once a mooring for fishermen. The Sea of Galilee is more than six feet below its normal level for the time of year, and the outline of the boat was spotted in black mud that would normally be under water. It was close to a few old coins which came to light along the shoreline. A pottery lamp, with soot still round its spout, was found on the boat. It is of a design current at the start of the first century BC, so the boat could well have been in use at the time of Christ. The craft will be left soaking in water and chemicals for several years before its timbers are sufficiently preserved and it can be displayed to the public.

Russian defector sails to freedom

Stockholm — The first mate on a Russian fisheries inspection ship forced the captain at gun point to sail the vessel to Sweden yesterday. (Christopher Mosley writes)

The boat, which was based in Tallinn, capital of Estonia, put in to Slite on the Baltic island of Gotland where the 42-year-old sailor surrendered his gun and asked in broken English for political asylum.

He said he had a daughter living in Finland but no family in Tallinn.

The police allowed the captain to contact the Soviet Embassy in Stockholm. The four other members of the crew did not want to defect.

Mind change

Kuala Lumpur (Reuter) — Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister, Datuk Musa Hitam, has withdrawn his resignation as deputy president of the dominant Malay-based party to prevent a further split in party ranks.

Crash cause

Delhi (Reuter) — A bomb caused the crash of an Air India plane off Ireland which killed all 329 people on board, according to an Indian Government inquiry report.

Trial climb

Kathmandu (AP) — An eight-man US team has arrived here for a trial climb of the 26,899ft Mount Chomolungma before tackling Mount Everest in 1988.

Farmers freed

Peshawar (Reuter) — The Pakistan authorities have agreed to free 130 opium poppy growers arrested during a crackdown on crops and to compensate families of seven farmers killed in the operation.

Wife dies

Vienna (AP) — Mrs Semiramis Alia, the wife of the Albanian leader, Mr. Ramiz Alia, has died aged 58, the official news agency ATA reported.

Just too much

Moscow (Reuter) — The Communist leaders of Sol-Letsk, a rural Russian district, have been expelled from the ruling party for holding a drunken dinner to celebrate the end of their local conference. *Pravda* said.

East-West tensions

Nitze gets down to arms details

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The United States will present detailed proposals at the next session of the Geneva talks in May for the verification of medium-range missile reductions, according to President Reagan's senior arms control adviser.

Mr. Paul Nitze said they would involve on-site inspection and an exchange of information. The proposals would augment the latest US plan on the reduction of intermediate weapons, which calls for the elimination of the Soviet and US arsenals in three phases over three years.

Speaking to the US Foreign Service Institute on Thursday, Mr. Nitze conceded that the US proposals would require the Soviet Union to make larger cuts than the US in the first phase. But he said the plan was designed so that the Russians would not maintain an advantage over the US at any point in the process.

He gave a generally negative assessment of the latest rounds of arms talks, suggesting the Soviet insistence on prohibiting the modernization of British and French nuclear forces showed the Russians were not negotiating seriously.

MOSCOW: The Kremlin has proposed starting two-way talks with the US in April on a nuclear test ban, a senior Soviet official said yesterday (AP reports).

Mr. Viktor Komplektov, the Deputy Foreign Minister, said the Soviet Union has informed Washington of the proposal and has named its negotiator.

US backs censure of Pinochet

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

A resolution initiated by the United States criticizing the Chilean Government for serious human rights violations was approved without a vote yesterday at the 43-nation UN Human Rights Commission wound up its six-week annual session.

It was the first time the US has initiated such a move against Chile, calling for respect of human rights and "respect for the principle of government based on the consent of the governed."

The US delegate, Mr. Richard Schifter, said they had tried quiet diplomacy at first. "Only after concluding we were not getting an adequate response did we go public."

The commission approved resolutions censuring those responsible for events in countries such as Afghanistan, South Africa, Iran and Cambodia and condemning the taking of hostages.

It endorsed proposals for monitoring states' compliance with the 1981 declaration on religious discrimination.

The commission commended the special rapporteur on torture, Mr. Peter Kooijmans of The Netherlands, for his report revealing that torture was widespread.

French ban kidnap message

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The four French television channels decided yesterday to show only short, silent extracts of the film of the three surviving French hostages who have been held by Islamic Jihad in Beirut for nearly a year. They refused to broadcast accompanying messages from the pro-Iranian Muslim extremist group which the hostages read.

The release of the six-minute video cassette of the

blunder over the deportation of two pro-Iranian Iraqis to Iraq. This was used by Islamic Jihad as the pretext for M. Seurat's execution.

The "pardon" granted by Baghdad to the two Iraqis, neither of whom has been convicted of anything, and the promise of their imminent return to France, satisfies one of Islamic Jihad's demands and apparently removes the threat of the "execution" of another hostage.

But it complicates further another of their demands — that France cease to supply Iraq with arms in its war against Iran. France inevitably feels inclined to Iraq for granting the pardon.

Islamic Jihad has also demanded the release of five men convicted of murder in connection with an assassination attempt on the former Iranian Prime Minister, Shapur Bakhtiar, and the return to Iran of the \$1 billion (£671 million) loan made to France under the Shah.

Released Zapu man in hospital

From Jan Raath, Harare

Mr. Lookout Masuku, the former deputy army commander drawn from the opposition Zapu party, who was freed this week after nearly four years in detention, is said to be seriously ill in hospital.

He was released on health grounds at the same time as the former Zapu secretary-general, Mr. Vote Moyo, was freed.

Friends of Mr. Masuku said he had been transferred to hospital from prison with acute meningitis three weeks ago. He was still "very sick".

He was arrested early in 1982 on suspicion of stockpiling arms with other Zapu executives to stage an uprising.

He was acquitted by the High Court in 1983 but was immediately detained under State of Emergency laws.

Kohl seeks better ties with East Germany

From Frank Johnson, Bonn

Herr Helmut Kohl, delivering the Chancellor's annual speech to Parliament on "The state of the nation in divided Germany", yesterday appealed for improved relations with East Germany.

"Both states in Germany have a duty to make an active contribution to East-West relations by extending their co-operation," he said.

Herr Kohl's remarks were inevitably scrutinized for any clues they might have offered towards the solution of the perennial mystery of German politics: will Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader ever be allowed by the Soviet Union to make his visit to the Federal Republic?

The Soviet Union publicly opposed the visit which Herr Honecker intended to make in 1984, and he had to abandon the idea.

Although it was about the state of Germany, yesterday's speech was also about the state of Herr Kohl, whose position seems to have been weakened by the legal actions against him provoked by the Green MP, Herr Otto Schily. In an unusually impassioned interview this week with the newspaper *Bild*, Herr Kohl said: "Schily wants to defame me... it's an evil campaign which is meant to finish me politically."

EEC denies secret butter sale deals

From Richard Owen, Brussels

The EEC Commission yesterday denied that it was involved in any "secret deals" with countries such as Libya or the Soviet Union over the sale of EEC butter at subsidized prices.

But trade experts said a deal with Russia was "in the offing" and that a confidential message had been sent by the Commission to EEC exporters interested in selling EEC butter to Libya at knock-down prices.

The Commission said it proposed to nearly double the present subsidy for sales within the Community from £53 a hundred kilograms of butter to £99. That would put butter to the needy at about 12p a pound.

The planned sale to Russia is said to be of more than 100,000 tonnes at about 15p a pound. The quantity for Libya is not known.

Soyuz course righted

Moscow (Reuter) — The Soviet cosmonauts Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovyov spent the first day of their new space mission yesterday doing routine checks and correcting the course of their Soyuz T15 craft.

A progress report issued by Tass said the men, who blasted into orbit on Thursday,

extending its scheme for subsidizing low-priced butter sales to old-age pensioners, the unemployed and those on social security.

They would make a further correction later to bring them closer to the Mir space station.

Mr. Kizim, aged 44, and Mr. Solovyov, aged 39, are due to dock with Mir today. They will be the first cosmonauts to visit the station, the core of a planned giant orbital laboratory, since it was launched on February 20.

Washington criticized by UN legal expert

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

The United Nations legal counsel has challenged the unilateral decision by the United States to impose a ceiling on the size of the Soviet delegation to the world organization, saying that the dispute must be resolved through conciliation procedures.

In a statement before the UN host country relations committee, Mr. Carl-August Fleischhauer did not deny the legal right of the US to seek to reduce the 270-strong Soviet mission, but he made clear that Washington had gone about it the wrong way by simply taking matters into its own hands. Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary-General, was, he said, even at this stage ready to play a mediatory role. The forthright remarks by the legal counsel surprised many diplomats who are used to witnessing the UN legal department perform amazing balancing acts.

The effect of the ruling was immediately felt as Western delegations — including France, Spain and Canada — told the host relations committee that US apprehensions over the size of the Soviet delegation were justified, but nevertheless agreed that more proper channels to resolve the dispute should be used.

Clint asks the voters to make his day

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

Any candidate for political office in the United States would normally be delighted to be offered an international platform to air his views on.

But in the resort town of Carmel, California, the man running for mayor is not just any candidate: Clint Eastwood, actor, producer, millionaire and number one box office star, has made it perfectly clear that out-of-town journalists need not apply to interview him.

"I have no desire to turn this campaign into a circus," said the actor, aged 55, who is expending as much time and energy to win the two-year mayor's job — which pays \$200 (£135) a month — as he does on a film, which pays him in the region of \$6 million.

Mr. Eastwood has become an international star playing steely, existential heroes, first in spaghetti westerns, heavy on scowling and low on dialogue, and then as the maverick San Francisco detective "Dirty Harry" Callaghan, who often takes the law into his own hands.



Clint Eastwood: deadly serious candidate.

In one scene that has become a celluloid classic, Eastwood the cop inchily fingers the trigger of his Magnum as he confronts an armed robber. "Go ahead — make my day," he tells the hoodlum.

Naturally Mr. Eastwood would be thrilled if the 4,800 residents of the community some 90 miles from San Francisco made his day on April 8. He has become one of the most visible candidates, usually hanging out at campaign headquarters, right next door to his bar and restaurant, the Hog's breath.

He shows up at early break-

fasts to debate local issues with his three chief opponents: the incumbent Mayor, Charlotte Townsend; Mr. Paul Lamb, a businessman; and Mr. Timothy Grady, a dishwasher and singer who is running on an environmentalist ticket.

Although he has turned down dozens of offers from network television journalists and those willing to fly to Carmel from London, Paris, and Rome, it has not stopped the world press from rushing to his bar, hoping for even the briefest of dialogues with the taciturn star.

They roam down Carmel's main street interviewing businessmen and residents and buying up the "Make My Day" bumper stickers.

Mr. Eastwood's only public pronouncement for out-of-town media is this: "This race is between me and my neighbours. I love Carmel, and want my neighbours to be able to make their decision on April 8 outside an atmosphere of national media." He has lived there for a dozen years.

He shows up at coffee mornings and pounds the streets, knocking at each door to win support. He talks earnestly about solving Carmel's problems (heavy traffic in the summer, when thousands flock to the pretty town) and wants to bring back old-fashioned logic to cope with parking, water shortage and a stodgy image.

Last year he sued the city when the councillors rejected his proposal to build a two-storey office building next to his restaurant.

"Clint's deadly serious about getting the job," said Mr. Mac McDonald, editor of the weekly *Fine Cone* newspaper. "It's not a whim. It's certainly lived up to a usually dull campaign. When word spreads that Clint is going to show up at someone's house for coffee and Danish, the place is packed: a sell-out."

However the vote turns out, Mr. Lamb expects to emerge a winner. He runs a shirt store which has a sign reading "Buy a Paul Lamb for Mayor" T-shirt and you get a Clint Eastwood shirt for free." Asked why he was pushing his arch rival, Mr. Lamb replied: "I'm a pragmatic fellow: politics is politics, and business is business."

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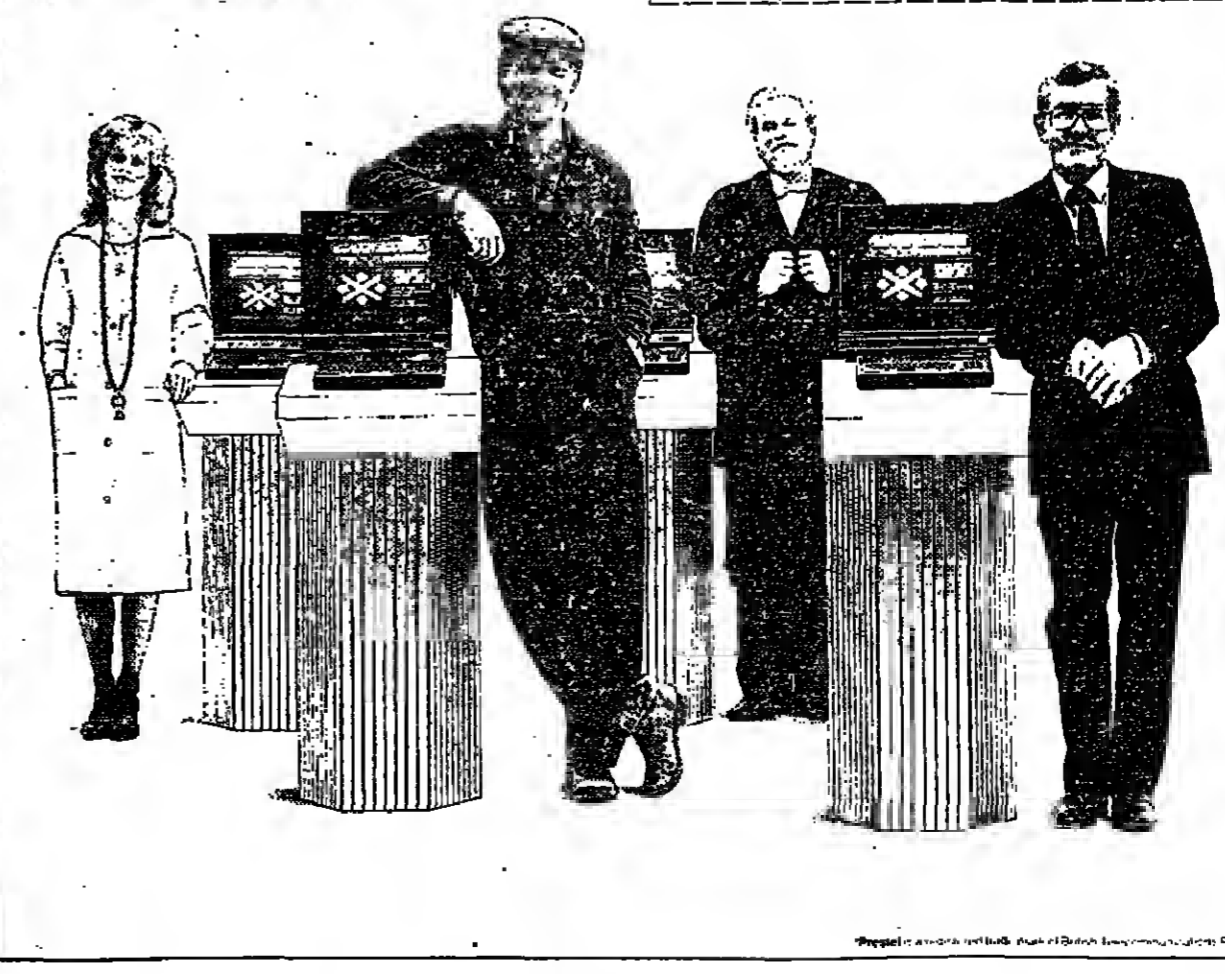
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France gears up for one of most vital elections since the war

From Diana Geddes, Paris Campaigning ended at midnight last night for what is likely to be one of the most important general elections since the Second World War.

By tomorrow night, France will probably find itself for the first time under the Fifth Republic with a right-wing majority in parliament confronting a left-wing president.

It could constitute a turning point in French history. No one knows for certain that will happen. Some are predicting political chaos and constitutional crisis.

President Mitterrand himself has recently added to the climate of confusion and uncertainty by suggesting for the first time that he might decide to resign in the event of a right-wing landslide.

Nearly 37 million voters are being called to the polls in France's 96 metropolitan departments and nine overseas departments and territories to vote for an enlarged National Assembly of 577 deputies.

For the first time under the Fifth Republic, elections will be by proportional representation on the basis of lists of candidates fielded by the parties in each department.

At the same time, elections are being held for 1,840 seats in the newly-developed 26 regional councils, which until now have been indirectly elected.

From Diana Geddes, Paris

For the past few weeks, the Government has been carrying out a massive publicity campaign designed to bring



home to the electorate that there will be two separate elections, and only one round of voting.

Under the constitution, the President has up until the opening of the new session of Parliament on April 2 in which to choose his prime minister.

The first computer predictions are expected at 8pm, but a clear picture of the way voting has gone is not expected until near midnight, with

Ecuador put on state of alert

Quito (AP) - President Febrés Cordero of Ecuador declared a state of emergency after the dismissed armed forces chief, General Frank Vargas, took control of a second air force base and called on supporters to march on the government palace to restore "a true social democracy."

Reports said the dissident general took over the Mariscal Sucre base in Quito on Thursday night, claiming the Government had broken the agreement that had led to his surrender at another base on Tuesday.

General Vargas addressed a crowd of about 500 people, asking them to protect the base against a possible government attack and prepare for a march on the palace.

"Tomorrow, or if possible tonight, we will march against the palace," he said, dressed in battle fatigues. "My aim is to restore in this country, a true social democracy, with liberty, with opportunities for everybody."

President Febrés Cordero ordered a state of emergency in the provinces of Pichincha and Manabí after the call for a march.

Earlier he had accepted the resignation of the Defence Minister, Señor Luis Pineiros, and of the army commander, apparently meeting the demands General Vargas made last Friday that he be sacked for alleged fraudulent management of public funds.

Leading article, page 13



General Vargas speaking to supporters at the entrance to the Quito air base.

The President had dismissed General Vargas, aged 51, for insubordination and he and about 200 supporters barricaded themselves in at the Manta air force base for five days to press his demands.

General Vargas surrendered on Tuesday, agreeing to stand trial in a military court.

But radio and television reports on Thursday night said officers at the Mariscal Sucre base had said that General Vargas was inside and in charge. The radio said General Vargas had taken control of the Quito base because the Government did not respect earlier agreements, but it was not known what those agreements were.

In a broadcast attributed to the general, Radio Quito quoted him as telling soldiers at the base: "I will not fight against tyranny. Those who want to stay, come to my side...I will fight until death against tyranny."

A government spokesman, Señor Joffre Torbay, said earlier on Thursday the President had accepted an offer by the army chief, General Luis Albuja, to retire or accept another post. He was the other officer whose sacking General Vargas had demanded.

Japan in industry for art 'deal'

From David Watts Tokyo

Japanese firms are to announce two new investments in Wales shortly.

Mr Nicholas Edwards, the Secretary of State for Wales, told The Times of the investments just after he had helped to open a controversial exhibition of old masters from the Welsh National Museum at the Sogo department store.

The investment is expected to include at least one factory and the minister's delegation has been discussing the possibility of Japanese bio-technological research being done in Wales.

Mr Edwards told the guest of honour, Prince Hiro, grandson of Emperor Hirohito, that it was particularly appropriate that "at a time when Japanese companies are helping to create a second industrial revolution in Wales, based on high technology, we should be able to send these superb works of art as a gesture of our friendship."

But critics of the year-long loan of the paintings, which include Rembrandt's "Portrait of a Girl" and Van Gogh's "Rain at Arnhem" as well as works by Turner, Constable and Richard Wilson, believe it involves much more than a gesture of friendship.

The critics, who include most of the museum's staff, believe it may be part of a quid pro quo for more Japanese industrial investment in Wales and for the founding of a new national museum.

A study of the needs of the museum is being made and a report is expected in early summer on whether the present building should be restored or new provision made.

An inquiry into the circumstances of the loan of the paintings is now under way in Wales and the museum's keeper on art has been suspended on full pay.

The tour, lasting until December, will take the works to six provincial cities. The conditions here are better than we have at home," Dr Michael Evans, assistant keeper of fine art at the museum, said.

The paintings are displayed in Sogo's special gallery which has constantly controlled humidity and appropriate, subdued lighting in contrast to the paintings' home in Cardiff where staff must try to protect them in less than ideal surroundings.

However two paintings already show sensitive spots and the possibility of paint lifting off will be a constant concern of the staff looking after the works. One German-trained Japanese conservationist will be monitoring the works.

Prince Hiro clearly enjoyed the exhibition: "He's no artist and he's no art historian," said Professor Nobuyuki Senozaki of Seijo University, who explained the paintings to him.

"But he's been to many of the places depicted in the paintings and he's visited Wales so he enjoyed it very much."

Danes get a bitter Easter egg

Copenhagen - Labour unrest and mass demonstrations are expected in Denmark after the presentation yesterday by Mr Poul Schluter, the Prime Minister, of his minority Government's third economic austerity package within 12 months (Christophe Follet writes).

Already dubbed the "Easter egg" package, the measures aim to cut back consumer demand by 11,000 million kroner (£392 million).

The measures include increased taxes on energy consumption, as well as on wine, spirits, ale, tobacco and confectionery. A 10 per cent levy is to be put on luxury goods.

Nazis claim Palme murder

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

A hitherto unknown European Nazi group yesterday claimed responsibility for the assassination of Olof Palme, the Swedish Prime Minister, and served warning that the former West German Chancellor, Herr Willy Brandt, a speaker at Mr Palme's funeral today, would be their next victim.

The claim came in two anonymous letters, one to TT, Sweden's domestic news agency, the other to the Stockholm evening newspaper Aftonbladet.

The letters, from a group calling itself the European Nationalist Union, were handwritten in capital letters in English.

They read: "During the autumn conference in Berchtesgaden September 85, with the usual 13 leaders from European countries, plus USA, death penalty was passed on Olof Palme and the German traitor Willy Brandt."

"ENU succeeded in the execution of Olof Palme 28-2-86," next to turn is Willy Brandt."

Meanwhile, under strict security, world leaders, statesmen and film stars arrived here yesterday for the funeral. Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, yesterday visited the spot where Mr Palme was shot dead to lay a wreath.

Paul Newman, the actor, a close friend of Mr Palme's from their student days at Keeyoo College, Ohio, and the former actress Melina Mercouri, now Greece's Minister of Culture, were also flying in for the funeral.

Mr Ingvar Carlsson, the new Swedish Prime Minister, held talks yesterday with Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, the Soviet Prime Minister, after his arrival for the funeral. Today, he will meet the United States Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz.

Mr Ryzhkov said he also would hold talks with Mr Shultz if the US asked for this. Britain will be represented at the funeral by Lord Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council, who is also expected to hold talks with Mr Carlsson.

There will be a massive funeral procession through the streets of Stockholm today.

Managua accuses envoys of spying

From John Carlin, Managua

The Nicaraguan Government has accused four American diplomats here of belonging to the Central Intelligence Agency, claiming that they recruited two Interior Ministry officials to work for them as spies.

Nicaragua has not decided yet whether to expel the alleged CIA spies, only two of whom are currently in Managua, but a senior official at the Interior Ministry said they would "probably have to leave the country."

Nicaragua's state security chief, Commander Lenin Cerma, said on Thursday that the two accused Interior Ministry officials had been recruited last October, lured by initial payments of \$25,000 (£16,600) and the promise of a monthly "salary" of \$5,500.

The two men, both of whom had middle-ranking positions in the Sandinista security apparatus, were arrested last month.

Only now, however, after interrogation, have they given details of the four US Embassy officials, one a woman, with whom they say they maintained clandestine links.

"We are not a colony of the US...So who has given the Congress of the country the right to discuss the future of Nicaragua?" he asked.

Guerrilla leader shot dead

Bogotá (Reuter) - One of the founders and the top leader of Colombia's April 19 guerrilla group (M19), Álvaro Fajard, has been killed by police, a police spokesman said yesterday.

General Guillermo González of the Police Command, said Fajard was strolling in a fashionable neighbourhood west of Bogotá on Thursday night when special commandos, advised of his presence, shot and killed him and a woman companion.

Fajard had been in Bogotá since last Wednesday attending a guerrilla summit, according to reports reaching police.

Aged in his 40s, he had met President Belisario Betancur several times to draw up terms for a ceasefire. He became M19's top leader last year.

The leftist group had signed the truce in 1984, but a few months later resumed armed strife. Fajard's successor seems likely to be Carlos Pizarro León-Gómez.

M19 was responsible for the bloody assault last year on the Palace of Justice, where more than 100 people were killed as troops intervened to dislodge the guerrillas.

Three cheers for Britain

Telex: JOHN PARSONS at Telford

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By JOHN PARSONS

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Bates should get Britain off to a winning start

By JOHN PARSONS

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By MALCOLM FOLLEY

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OBVIOUSLY, THE BRITISH PERFORM BETTER IN TELFORD. Large advertisement for Telford tennis facility.

THE SUCCESS STORY CONTINUES. Telford Development Corporation advertisement.

ETA four jailed in Bayonne

From Richard Wigg Madrid

A French court's description of four members of the Basque separatist organization ETA as "a band of common criminals" was hailed by the Spanish Interior Minister, Señor José Barrionuevo, yesterday.

The four had been found guilty by a Bayonne court on Thursday of possessing and storing arms and explosives in a disguised arms factory on a farm which was raided by French police in January last year.

They included Juan Lasa Michelana ("Txikiardi") a former head of the organization's military wing. All held refugee status. They were each sentenced to five years' imprisonment and were barred from living in south-west France for seven years after completion of the prison terms.

Despite protests in the Basque region, Madrid regards the court's decision as offering sufficient legal grounds for taking similar steps against any ETA members residing in France, and as a significant advance in co-operation with the French.

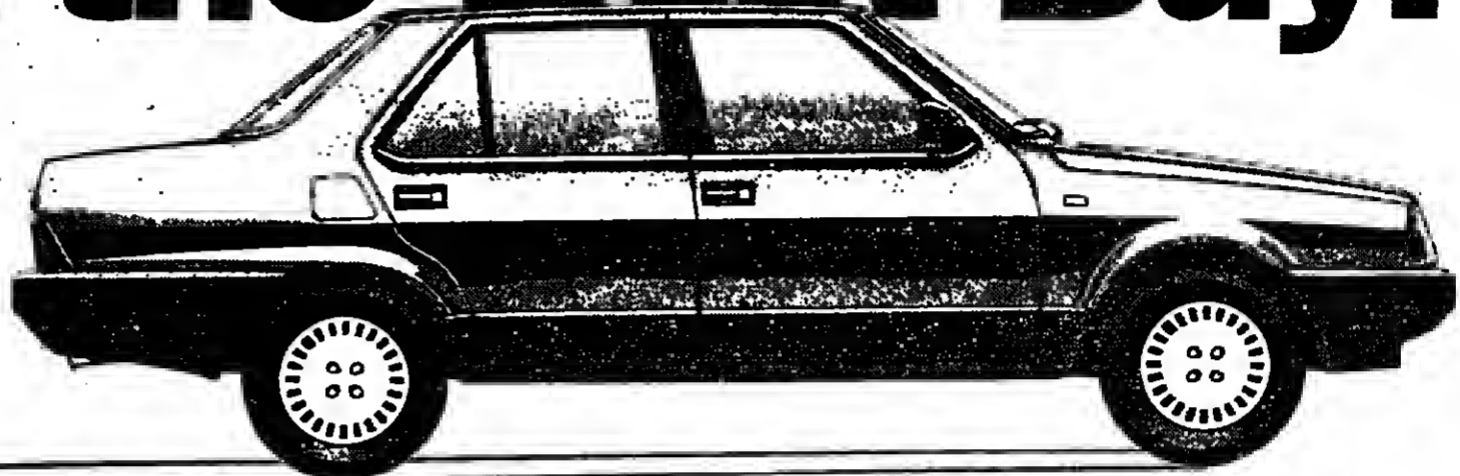
Ex-FBI man sent to prison

Washington (Reuter) - A former FBI employee has been sentenced to three to nine years' imprisonment in a spy case involving the Soviet Union.

Randy Miles Jeffrey, aged 26, was arrested in December on a charge that he offered to sell classified documents for \$5,000 (£3,400) to an FBI agent posing as a Soviet military official.

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MITSUBISHI LANCER 1800—£6899
 RENAULT 9 BROADWAY 1.4—£5520
 NISSAN SUNNY 1300 GS—£5726
 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA GL—£7174

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 VAUXHALL CAVALIER 1.3 L—£6409
 AUSTIN ROVER 216 SE—£7187
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ALFA ROMEO GIULIETTA 1.6—£7350
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 FORD ORION 1600 GHIA—£7875
 LANCIA PRISMA 1600—£6990

VAUXHALL CAVALIER 1.3 L—£6409
 AUSTIN ROVER 216 SE—£7187
 AUSTIN MONTEGO 2.0 HL—£7899
 FIAT REGATA 85 SUPER—£6539

VAUXHALL CAVALIER 1.6 GL—£7617
 PEUGEOT 405—£6734

VAUXHALL CAVALIER 1.6—£6362
 SEAT MALAGA 1500 GLX—£6293
 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA TX—£6568
 HYUNDAI STELLAR 1.6 SL—£5599

VAUXHALL CAVALIER 1.3—£6015
 ALFA ROMEO GIULIETTA 1.6—£7350

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Suicide by New York corruption suspect

From Christopher Thomas New York

A key suspect in New York City's deepening corruption scandal has killed himself at home by plunging a 12-inch kitchen knife into his chest.

Mr Donald Manes, aged 52, who resigned recently as president of the New York borough of Queens, was about to be charged for his alleged role in a racketeering operation centred on the city's Parking Violations Bureau, which collects parking fines.

It appeared that he had just been talking on the telephone to his psychiatrist late on Thursday. He was dead on arrival at hospital.

Mr Manes, who also quit recently as head of the Democratic party in Queens, tried to kill himself two months ago by slashing his arms and legs.

His death came three days after an old friend, Mr Geoffrey Lindenauer, former deputy director of the Parking Violations Bureau, pleaded guilty to reduced charges of corruption and in return gave information to the authorities.

Law enforcement officials said Mr Lindenauer gave details about systematic pay-offs to Queens politicians by firms hired to collect millions of dollars annually in unpaid parking fines.

His nation in crisis, Sri Lanka's President speaks to The Times

Jayewardene steeped in gloom

From Michael Hamlyn, Colombo

There can be no political settlement in Sri Lanka until the separatist rebels in the north and east give up their terrorist campaign, according to President Jayewardene.

Speaking on the day his Government announced a new initiative to bring the militant Tamils to the negotiating table, the President painted a gloomy picture of its chances of success.

"Until the terrorists are defeated or surrender, I can't have a political solution," he told me in the study of his house in the leafy Cinnamon Gardens area of the capital.

He explained that the last time there was a political compromise between the Tamils and the Government over devolution of power to district councils the ensuing elections were disrupted by terrorists, and a peaceful political development became impossible. "Even if you have a political solution you can't implement it," he said.

Although he is prepared to talk to the militants, and he is prepared to call his Army back to barracks "the moment they give up their campaign", he is not prepared to go far to compromise on the document drawn up between himself and Delhi after India began to mediate last summer.

President Jayewardene is prepared to discuss the extent

of the powers to be devolved to the new units of government, and significantly he admitted that progress has been made on the key questions of law and order and land settlement at talks between his National Security Minister and a Tamil former MP, which may provide a basis for further discussions.

But he is not ready to compromise on the issue of linking a northern provincial

Sanctions call

Delhi (Reuter) - Eleven opposition parties said yesterday that the policy of the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, towards Sri Lanka was a failure.

They called for India to consider economic sanctions against Colombo.

government with an eastern province, in the way that the Tamils want.

"It's impossible because the eastern province doesn't want it," he insisted. To go further along the line of constitutional reform than last summer's document would mean a referendum, which would be bound to go against the reform. "We can't go any further, and the Tamils must realize it," he said.

The President sees himself beleaguered by the enemies of

democracy in Sri Lanka: "We are facing a preparation for a wider conflict."

He fears that anti-democratic forces, both Tamil and Sinhalese, are getting together to fight for a Marxist state. "We found a whole houseful of weapons a few weeks ago," he said. "And a soon after that, not far away, we found in another house evidence of training. There is mounting evidence of that."

"It is very serious. I am doing my best to preserve the democratic system."

He is continuing to hold by elections, but he is setting his face against early parliamentary elections. "This is the worst time for us to have an election," he said.

"Mrs Bandaranaike [the opposition leader and former Prime Minister] is pressing for us to have elections now. Presumably she thinks the time is favourable to her. But the Government must have elections at a time favourable to it."

But "if we can settle this thing, then we should certainly have elections."

The President offered in the interview to withdraw the controversial sixth amendment to the Constitution, which deprived the Tamil United Liberation Front MPs of their seats because they would not forswear separat-

ism. But he indicated that they would not be strictly welcome back in Parliament unless they were prepared to uphold the unitary Constitution.

He also spoke of the curious situation in the northern Jaffna district, where the Government still runs the schools and hospitals, but where it can take no responsibility for law and order.

"In Jaffna peninsula, though we have the Army and police in the camps, the terrorists control it completely. It is our administration, the civil servants are paid by us, the teachers are paid by us, the university is run by me as Minister for Higher Education, but law and order is preserved - or the lack of it - by the terrorists. What is one to do? Are we to say, well, you have it?"

"We don't know what is happening inside, how men, women, girls, boys function. It is a sad, sad state of affairs."

"How to take Jaffna is a problem," he admitted thoughtfully. "It means the killing of 100,000 people."

In general the President seemed to be in a baffled mood. "What am I to do," he asked several times. "I sometimes wish that those correspondents who are offering me advice would come and do my job for a day."



President Jayewardene: sees himself beleaguered by the enemies of democracy in his island state.

Students clash with Seoul riot police

Seoul (Reuter) - More than 1,000 students demanding President Chun's resignation battled with riot police at Seoul universities yesterday after a week of campus unrest.

About 1,000 riot police and plainclothes men stormed the Presbyterian Yonsei University campus and fired teargas to disperse some 700 students, who retaliated with stones. Several students were kicked and punched before being taken away to hospital.

At Seoul National University, about 300 students were involved in a similar clash.

A court yesterday gave suspended jail sentences to six students after they said they were sorry they had set fire to President Chun's party offices. Witnesses said the students were gagged by prison guards when they shouted anti-government slogans as they entered the court.

They were among 82 students standing trial for occupying and setting alight a Democratic Justice Party office last November. They also demanded the President's resignation and an end to US support for his Government.

Hundreds of students have been arrested this year for anti-government protests and for supporting a banned opposition campaign for election reforms.

Law Report March 15 1986

Argyll challenge over bid fails

Regina v Monopolies and Mergers Commission and Another, Ex parte Argyll Group plc

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Neill (Judgment given March 14)

Whether a prospective bid in a merger situation had been abandoned within the meaning of section 75(5) of the Fair Trading Act 1973 was a question of fact and degree for the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to decide.

It was not in the power of the chairman of the commission, where the commission had not yet entered on a reference, to decide the issue of abandonment without referring the question to the commission or to a group of its members charged with the conduct of the reference, but since the commission, or a group of its members, would have reached the same conclusion as the chairman had done, the court would, in the exercise of its discretion, refuse to grant judicial review of the chairman's decision.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by Argyll Group plc from a decision of Mr Justice Macpherson given on March 6, 1986, refusing them judicial review of the decision of the chairman of the commission, Sir Godfrey Le Quesne, QC, that a proposal by Guinness plc for the acquisition of Distillers plc had been abandoned.

Mr Allan Heyman, QC, Mr Christopher Bellamy, and Mr Nicholas Paines for Argyll Group, Mr John Mummery for the chairman of the commission and the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Peter Scott, QC and Mr Peter Goldsmith for Guinness, Mr David Oliver for Distillers.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the appeal arose in the context of a merger dispute between the Argyll Group of companies and Guinness, being rival suitors for the hand (and commercial activities) of Distillers.

Guinness had made its bid in January 1986. On February 13 the secretary of state had referred their proposal to the commission.

A week later the chairman of the commission successfully sought the consent of the secretary of state to the laying aside of the reference on the ground that the proposal to make such arrangements as were mentioned in the reference had been abandoned.

Argyll had sought judicial review, and Mr Justice Macpherson had refused the application. There were four issues:

- 1 Did the chairman correctly direct himself in law when he concluded that the proposal had been abandoned within the meaning of section 75(5) of the 1973 Act?
- 2 Did the chairman have power to act alone on behalf of the commission?
- 3 Had Argyll sufficient interest in the application?
- 4 Judicial review being discretionary, how should the discretion be exercised?

Argyll's submission was that at the time of the reference Guinness proposed to take over Distillers and that had always been, and still was, the position. Accordingly there was no possible basis for contending that at any time that proposal had been abandoned.

The secretary of state could make a reference if he knew or suspected that a merger qualifying for investigation had been created or that arrangements for such a merger were in progress or contemplation. He did not need to know the details.

The commission's position was quite different. They were concerned with an actual situation, whether of a completed merger or of one which was in progress or contemplation.

For Argyll it was submitted that section 75 of the Act meant that every proposal to make arrangements of the genus mentioned in the reference had been abandoned.

That was not the true construction. "The matter" which was referred for investigation was the proposal which appeared to the secretary of state to be in progress. Since he might not know precisely what arrangements were, the reference had to be in descriptive terms, but it was nevertheless a reference of such arrangements falling within the description as were then in fact in progress.

Where it was said by a prospective bidder that proposed or contemplated arrangements had been abandoned, it would always be a question of fact and degree whether that was correct or whether the so-called new arrangements were merely an amended form of the old arrangements. That was for the commission.

The concept of a merger under the Act was not related to the merging of corporations, but to the merging of enterprises, which meant "activities, or part of the activities, of a business" (see sections 63(2) and 64(1)).

The commission had to ask whether the new proposal, which excluded specified "whisky activities" from the merger, and which, in that form, was admittedly neither in progress or in contemplation at the time of the reference, was sufficiently different from the original proposal for it truly to be said that the original proposal had been abandoned.

While the commission had to be taken as having tacitly approved the practice adopted by the chairman as being the only sensible and practical way of dealing with abandonments with sufficient promptitude at a stage when the commission had not yet in any real sense entered on the reference, it was not within its power to do so and the chairman could not derive any authority independently from the Act.

The strength of an applicant's interest was one of the factors to be weighed in the balance in considering an application for judicial review. The issue would be adjourned for further consideration as part of the issue of discretion.

Good public administration was concerned with substance rather than form. Difficult though the decision upon the fact of abandonment might have been, there was little doubt that the commission, or a group of its members, would have reached the same conclusion as had their experienced chairman.

Good public administration required a proper consideration of the public interest. In that context the secretary of state was the guardian of the public interest. He had consented to the reference being laid aside, although he need not have done so. He could have made a further reference of the new proposal, but he had not done so.

Good public administration required a proper consideration of the legitimate interests of individual citizens, whether they were natural or juridical persons. But in judging the reference of an interest regard had to be had to the purpose of the administrative process concerned.

Argyll had a strong and legitimate interest in putting Guinness in bank, but that was not the purpose of the administrative process under the Fair Trading Act 1973. To that extent their interest was not of any great weight.

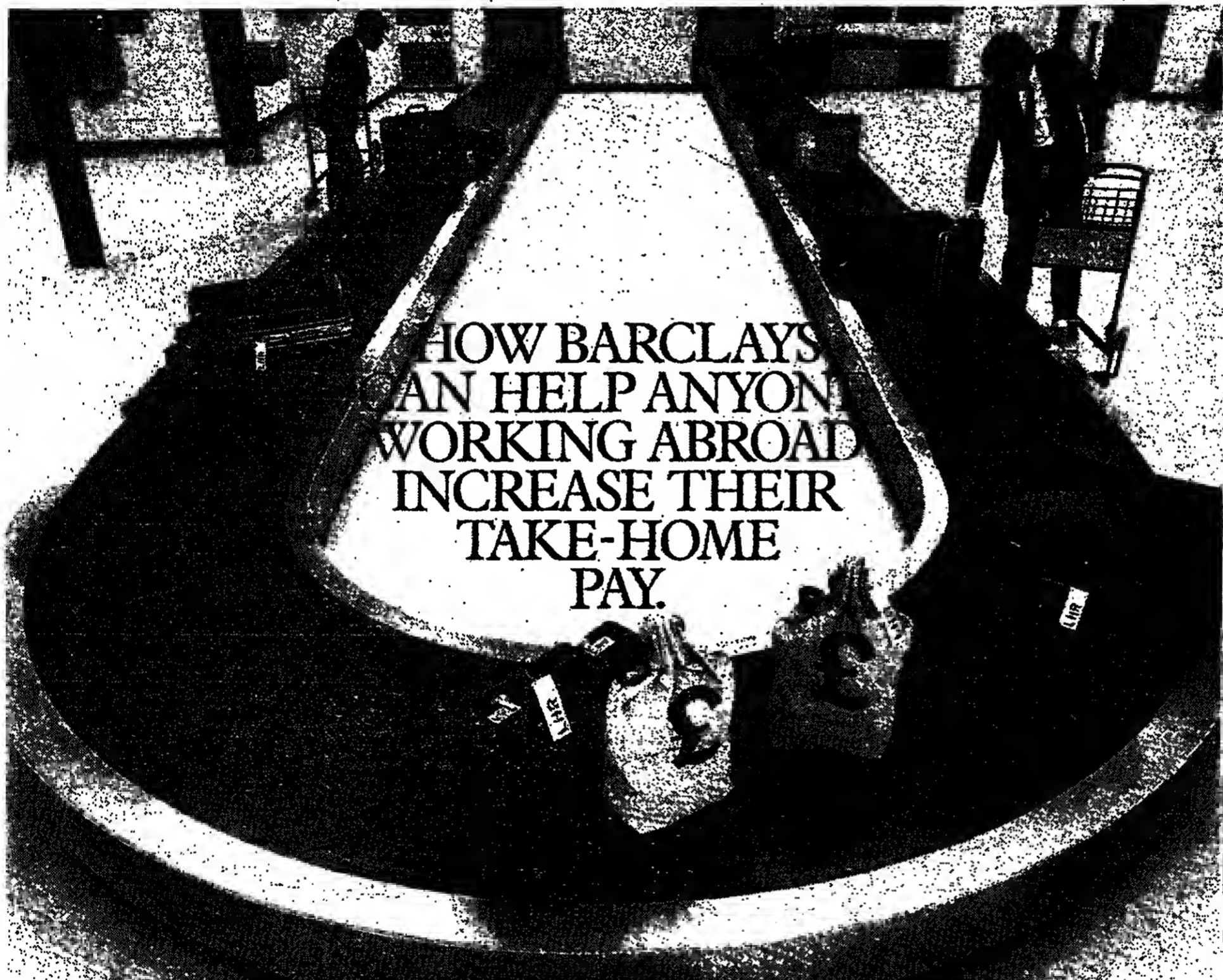
Lastly, good administration required decisiveness and finality, unless there were compelling reasons to the contrary.

Taking account of those and other factors, it was not a case in which judicial review should be granted. The appeal should be dismissed.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON, concurring, said that it was not necessary to reach a decision on the question of the chairman's powers.

Lord Justice Neill delivered a judgment concurring with the Master of the Rolls.

Solicitors: D J Freeman & Co; Treasury Solicitor: Freshfields; Herbert Smith & Co.



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كلمة من السيد

Deal struck on key issues in Hong Kong

From Nicholas Ashford, Hong Kong

British and Chinese officials yesterday reached agreement on key trade and passport issues which will help to ease Hong Kong's transition from a British colony to "special administrative region" of China in 1997.

A communique issued at the end of a four-day meeting, the third since the Sino-British liaison groups was set up a year ago, said the talks had been friendly and achieved positive results.

Mr Ye Zhaohuo, head of the Chinese delegation, said they had been a great success.

On Hong Kong's future participation in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the two sides decided to treat Hong Kong as an independent customs territory with full autonomy.

Britain will shortly lodge an application to Hong Kong's behalf with the GATT secretariat in Geneva. Agreement on its continued participation in GATT was regarded as being of crucial importance by Hong Kong's business community.

However, the Chinese had to be persuaded during months of painstaking diplomacy that Hong Kong's participation in GATT beyond 1997

did not infringe China's future sovereignty over the territory. British officials described the accord as "extraordinarily satisfactory" and said it would assist future talks on Hong Kong's many other international commitments.

The Chinese, who clearly wanted to demonstrate goodwill at the first meeting of the liaison group to be held in Hong Kong, agreed to British-proposed terms of a "right of abode" endorsement in the new British National (Overseas) passports which will be made available to the 3.5 million ethnic Chinese in Hong Kong who are Dependent Territory Citizens.

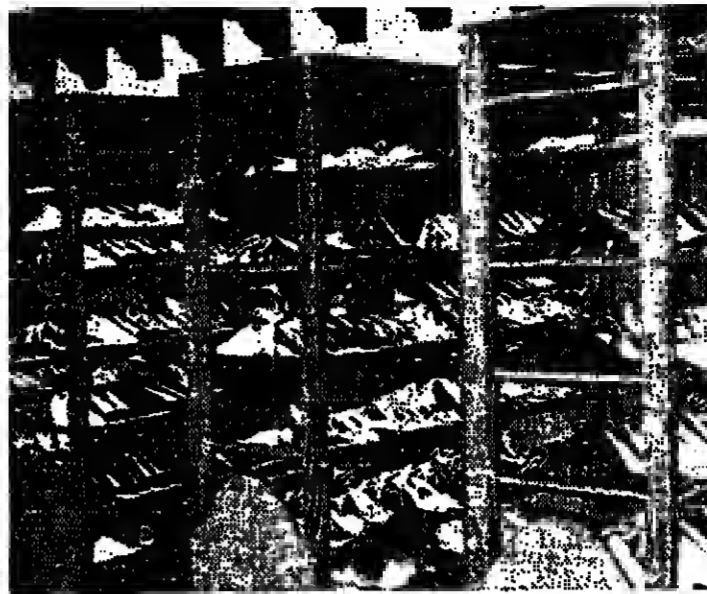
Hong Kong citizens who acquire a BNO passport before June 30, 1997 will be able to continue to use it as a travel document.

The endorsement, which says that the holder of the passport also possesses a Hong Kong identity card stating his or her right of abode in Hong Kong, was designed to ease Chinese concerns about infringement of sovereignty.

The two sides agreed to hold the next meeting of the joint liaison group in London in July.

Inside the Marcos palace of fantasies

From Keith Dalton, Manila



Tessa Lopez, tears streaming down her cheeks, bumped her head, scratched her arm and stumbled as military police yanked her through the presidential palace gates surrounded by a surging crowd chanting "let us in".

One by one, frantic Filipinos scrambled through the gate determined to get a glimpse of the palatial home of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos.

Miss Lopez, aged 22, skipped work to view the palace and anxiously joined the queue stretching 200 yards from the doors of what will become a "museum to folly and extravagance".

Like everyone else she went in curious and came out angry. "By God they bleed us dry, I curse them," she said after the short tour of the white Spanish-style building, massively renovated in 1976 to suit the often bizarre taste of Mrs Imelda Marcos who, judging by the numerous mystic-like paintings of herself, believed she was the God-chosen queen of the nation.

The visitors, in rubber sandals and hand-me-downs, gaped at the ornately decorated ballrooms, dining halls, studies and private chambers. A testimony to a fantasy lifestyle so out of keeping with the grinding poverty of 55 million Filipinos.

Red carpets give way to varnished wood floors or im-

ported Italian marble. Crystal chandeliers hang from intricately carved ceilings and antique furniture mixes with modern appliances. Paintings of the Marcoses dominate the walls. The most celebrated shows a goddess-queen Imelda Marcos, her head crowned by a halo, swirling out of a misty emerald sea—the embodiment of "Maganda", the heavenly Eve of Philippines folk-lore. The companion piece shows a life-sized Ferdinand Marcos, naked among bamboo trees as the mythical "Malakas"—the Philippines Adam.

The bedroom of the former first lady is huge. To one side is a Hollywood-style dressing room with make-up mirrors

Honolulu (Reuters) — A court has temporarily barred the Customs Service from transferring to Congress or any other agency the documents of the former President Marcos brought to Hawaii. The order was sought in a lawsuit filed by a Marcos aide, and Mr Gregorio Araneta, Mr Marcos's son-in-law.

The bedroom is dominated by a bed three yards wide with a crown-like headboard of flowing lace and covered with a dozen lace pillows. Beside the

bed cleaners found a box of pornographic video tapes and dozens of love letters. The ornate bathroom with mirrored walls, a 24-carat gold basin, a jacuzzi, scores of perfume bottles and six baskets of imported soap, is the palace's most lavish.

By comparison, the bedroom of Mr Marcos is drab, dominated by a hospital bed alongside a canopied one, oxygen tanks and medical supplies. Elsewhere a mini health clinic is cluttered with advanced medical equipment.

The bed of Mr Marcos, who suffers from a serious kidney disease and undergoes regular dialysis, was stripped of blood-

ied sheets by the volunteers. In the bathroom was a portable lavatory, its seat wrapped in towels, and baby nappies were apparently used by the former president because he could not control his bladder.

A basement near Mrs Marcos's bedroom holds 67 racks of dresses, including more than 1,000 gowns. Almost 3,000 pairs of shoes, all imported, are neatly arranged on 15 racks. Workers counted more than 500 bras, 200 boxes of unopened stockings, another 200 boxes of girdles, 30 wigs and more than 50 bottles of anti-wrinkle cream. A storeroom is stacked with boxes of television sets, stereos, video recorders and computers.

China puts its nuclear projects on ice

Peking (Reuters) — China has postponed for at least five years its ambitious plans to build large nuclear power plants and will use coal and water power to try to combat critical energy shortages, according to Western diplomats.

US officials told reporters here yesterday that Chinese energy officials had said China would build no new nuclear plants within the next five years except for two already contracted for, one of which will sell most of its power to Hong Kong.

"These plants involve very heavy capital equipment costs. China wants to put its limited resources in coal-powered and hydro-electric stations to meet immediate power shortages," an American official said.

China had said earlier it planned to build up to 10 nuclear stations by the year 2000 at a cost of up to \$20 billion (£13.4 billion). Its decision will disappoint US and European nuclear equipment manufacturers.

A spokesman for the West German Embassy here said talks were continuing between China and Kraftwerk Union although China this month cancelled a nuclear plant which the firm had expected to build.

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Law Report March 15 1986

Ouster case after guardianship

Essex County Council v T [1986] 1 WLR 1302, before Lord Justice May and Sir George Waller. Judgment given February 24.

Where an application under the Guardianship of Minors Act 1971 and 1973 and an application for an ouster injunction under the Matrimonial Homes Act 1983 were heard together, it was quite proper for the judge to determine the guardianship application first, before deciding the ouster application.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by a mother of a ward of court against a decision of Mr Roger Gray, QC, who, sitting as a deputy High Court judge in the Family Division on December 11, 1985, had ordered that the ward should remain in the care and control of Essex County Council, but live with the father when possible, and that the mother should vacate the matrimonial home.

Mr John R. Davies for the mother, Mr Peter M. Wright for the father, Mr Mark Everall for the council.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that the mother had argued that in considering first the guardianship application, in which the interests of the ward were paramount, the judge had disabled himself from considering the ouster application properly because he had elevated the interests of the ward, which was only one of four matters to be considered on an application under the 1983 Act (see *Richards v Richards* [1984] AC 174), above all other considerations.

She had contended that a judge should reach a provisional view on each application independently and then should try to give effect to them both without allowing one to override the other.

If a judge did that he was likely to fall between two stools and reach no conclusion at all. There was no difficulty in deciding what was in the best interests of the ward first (which was relevant on both applications) and thereby determining the guardianship application, and then taking that decision into account as one of the four considerations relevant to the 1983 Act application.

That could be done properly and without giving undue weight to the ward's interests on the second application, and the judge had done so.

The mother had also challenged the judge's exercise of his discretion. The approach which

Conflict of fact in written cases

Tesco Stores Ltd v Patel

Where both parties before an industrial tribunal presented their cases in the form of written representations, the tribunal was placed in an impossible position in reaching a proper decision if there was an acute conflict of fact; thus, no finding of fact could be made based solely upon such representations.

It was doubtful whether paragraph 7(3) of Schedule 1 of the Industrial Tribunals (Rules of Procedure) Regulations (SI 1985 16) provided for written representations to be a substitute for oral evidence where there was a direct conflict of facts.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice Poplewell, Mr T.G.P. Rogers and Mr W. Sirs) so held on February 26 in allowing the company's appeal against the decision of a London industrial tribunal on February 19, 1985, which ordered that the employee should be reinstated on the basis of the company's concession that he had been unfairly dismissed. The case was remitted to a different industrial tribunal for the question of remedy to be resolved.

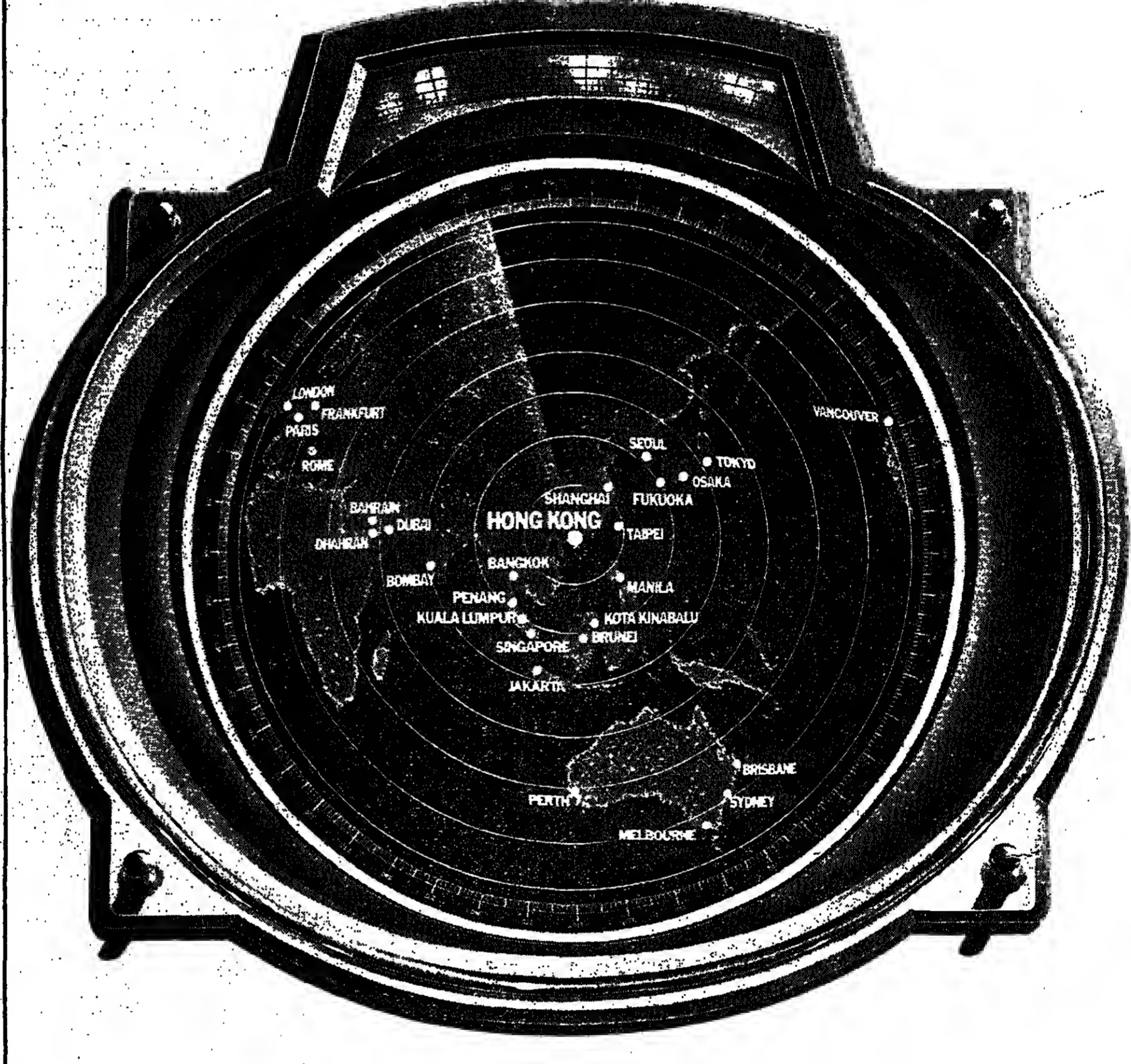
Justices erred over 'sale' of unfit food

Fleming v Edwards

Justices wrongly dismissed two informations preferred by the local authority's consumer protection officer against the defendant for selling food to the prejudice of the purchaser which was certified as unfit for human consumption, contrary to section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, by concluding that on the facts there had been no sale, because their attention had not been drawn to section 135.

Section 135(2) provides: "For the purposes of this Act... (a) the supply of food, otherwise than by sale, at, in or from any place where food is supplied in the course of business shall be deemed to be a sale of that food... and it was quite clear that the whole answer to the case was contained in that provision and in *Swain v Old Kenrick's Restaurants Ltd* (unreported, November 29, 1973, Divisional Court).

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Stephen Brown and Mr Justice McCullough) so held on March 10 when it allowed the prosecutor's appeal against the dismissal by County Justices on January 17, 1985. The case was remitted to the justices with a direction to convict.



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It was set up with the admirable objective of providing a decent pension for every employee who wasn't properly looked after by a private company scheme.

In today's cold light of day, however, SERPS looks distinctly like bad news for everyone.

For not only are the pensions it promises to its members actually very poor value for money.

But the eventual cost of providing those pensions on a 'pay as you go' basis (the way Governments pay for everything) could end up making the Trident programme look like petty cash.



2. The Government is planning to make it worse.

Well? What would you do? To its credit, the Government has decided to face the reality of SERPS, rather than bequeathing its unresolved problems to its successors in the 21st Century.

It is now introducing legislation to reduce the burden of SERPS on future generations.

Which, of course, means further reducing the value of future pensions many existing members can expect from SERPS.



3. But it is prepared to give a subsidy of 6 1/4% of your wage bill if you set up your own company scheme.

Many companies don't realise that if they contract out of SERPS they qualify for a substantial saving on their National Insurance Contributions.

It amounts to a subsidy worth approximately 6 1/4% of payroll costs. A subsidy so substantial in fact, that it will cover most of the cost of running an excellent private pension scheme for the company.



4. It intends to offer another 2% subsidy soon.

And the Government's generosity doesn't end there.

So keen are they to encourage firms to take over the role of providing employees with pensions, that the new Social Security Bill provides for the subsidy on contracted out schemes to be boosted by a further 2% of payroll costs as from early 1988.



5. Your workforce will enjoy substantial benefits. And so will you.

The management of any responsible company will take pride in ensuring that its workforce is going to enjoy full financial security in retirement. But there are also more direct business reasons for starting your own company pension scheme.

Employees who are financially secure are likely to prove both more productive and more loyal. And you'll also find that a good pension scheme can be an important factor in persuading more good people to come and work for you.



6. Every day you waste means more money down the drain.

Even before the present Government began its review of pensions legislation, many companies had already elected to contract out of SERPS in order to provide better pension benefits for their employees at little cost to themselves.

Now the Government has made clear its intention to run SERPS down, it makes even more sense to contract out.

Throwing good money after bad isn't a good idea, and since all contracted out schemes started now will automatically qualify for the extra 2% incentive when it becomes available, there is every reason to act immediately.



7. Crown can set up a scheme for you without delay or problems.

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FAIR DEALS FOR RETIREMENT

March 15-21, 1986

SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts

Fanfare for the festival season

Every conceivable taste in music and drama is catered for somewhere along the global culture trail. Bernard Levin absorbs the atmosphere in the first of a two-part series

Once heard the same piece of music 16 times in a day, and what is more, it wasn't a very good piece in the first place. This curious ordeal took place at the Royal Albert Hall; I had been despatched there (I was in my very first job as a journalist) to write about the Festival of Brass Bands, and I happened to hit the day when the championship was being decided, with its inevitable specially written test-piece that all the contestants had to play.

Shan't tell you, or you'll go mad, crowd the place out and spoil it. Festival-going is a habit acquired almost entirely since the Second World War; Salzburg existed before it, as did Bayreuth, but very few others. Edinburgh was founded in 1947, and all over the world, as country after country realised that tourism was going to be an essential part of their economies, new ones sprang up overnight; they are still doing so.

But the festival-goer does not think about the prosperity he is bringing with him (except perhaps in Salzburg, where he is obliged to bring a great deal of prosperity with him if he wants the best stalls at the opera, for they will set him back not less than £80 a seat). Whatever the visitor's effect on the local economy, it is pleasure that he seeks. But as every festival patron knows, the pleasure of music and theatre at a festival is subtly but crucially different from the pleasure of the same performances and performers at home. Why?

First, of course, we are usually on holiday if we are at a festival. With work left behind, we are far more ready to enjoy the festival programme, far less pressed for time; we have had a day of sightseeing or walking, sitting at cafe tables or watching the river go by. We are in a mood to enjoy the evening's performance even before it has begun; more, we are in a mood to go deeper into the music or the play, to surrender more completely to the power of art, and its benisons.

And it is not just us. It would be a poor festival if the artists did not enter into the same spirit of joyous expectation; again and again, in my years of festival-going, I have seen and heard performers produce more than their best, inspired by the occasion, and rising to it. Besides, the performances, at any rate in the principal festivals, are likely to be a glitter with stars, and for all that we condemn the star system at home, we tend to think its effects less pernicious when we are reveling in them abroad and at a festival.

Then, again, very many festival venues are beautiful and historic cities; the world beat a path to Salzburg long before the Festival came into being, and the Medicis caused quite a stir in Florence without the Maggio Musicale. The crazy grandeur of Edinburgh, the white stone and parsnips of Adelaide, the happy informality of Tanglewood, the astounding palaces of Newport, Rhode Island, the overwhelming hos-



Hilary Finch offers a guide to the pick of the European attractions

MARCH

BUDAPEST SPRING FESTIVAL One of the earliest, liveliest and thoroughly Hungarian of festivals. The focus of this year's 1,000 events in over 100 venues is the centenary of the death of Liszt: staged performances of his *Via Crucis* and *Requiem* will be given in the Castia Theatre, with evenings of orchestral and chamber concerts and piano recitals. Performances of Dostoevsky's *The Devils*, *Meistersinger* and *Emani* are backed up by 28 widely varied exhibitions and an extensive folkore programme. Events will also be held at Sopron on the western border and at the town of Zentendro.

APRIL

36TH MAGGIO MUSICALE FIORENTINO The major Italian festival of concerts, opera and ballet at a wealth of beautiful venues. The festival opens with the Paris production of Berlioz's opera, *La vera storia*, conducted by the composer (for other major

opera events see June). Menuhin, Kremer and Mintz start the festival's Great Violinists of the World series; and there will be performances from the Groupe Vocale de France, L'ensemble de Bruxelles, and the American percussionist, Robyn Shulkowsky. April 29-July 1: Teatro Comunale, Via Scellerino 15, Florence (010-39 55 262841). Sovereign offers a seven-night package from May 4 and throughout June. Average cost is £440, b&b at the Croce di Malta Hotel.

MAY

MOSCOW STARS ARTS FESTIVAL Moscow's three main theatres are taken over by nights of Pushkin, Gogol, Chekhov, with Glinka's *Russian and Ludmilla* at the Bolshoi and concerts of Prokofiev and Kabalevsky at the Nemirovich-Danchenko. Chamber music concerts, dance and ensembles and evenings of old Russian choral music at the former Znamensky Cathedral. May 5-13: Information from Intourist (Moscow) Ltd, 292 Regent Street, London W1R 8QL (01-580 1221), or 71 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2BW (061-634 0230).

11TH EVIAN INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL In the heady air of the Haute-Savoie, this spa town presents a week of *Jeunes musiciens sans frontières* - performances by young musicians from all over the world. Guest artists include Christa Ludwig, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Murray Perahia and Mstislav Rostropovich. The 11th International String Quartet competition runs from May 10-14, with a prize winners' concert on May 16. May 8-18: Chateau de Blonay, 74500 Evian, France (010-33 5075 03 79). Special festival holidays, taking in accommodation and festival tickets, are organised by the Royal Club Evian: information and reservations from Leading Hotels Of The World, 15 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6AU (01-583 3050).

VIENNA FESTWOCHE (SPRING FESTIVAL) This year's festival features "Britain in Vienna" with the National Theatre's *Yonadab*, exhibitions of modern British art, design, music, and a British fringe of dance, art, film and drama. A vast and varied programme of opera, theatre and concerts includes: Leoncavallo's *Der Bajazzo* at the Kammeroper; *Die Weisse von Liebe und Tod* des Schönbrunnar Schlosstheater; Sir John Pritchard conducting *Così Fan Tutta*, directed by Luc Bondy at the Theater an der

Wien, Hamburg's Studio; Milere presenting Mozart's *Die Gans von Kairo*, a film retrospective on *Mythos Circus Roncalli*, and five weeks of concerts, *lieder* recitals and chamber music. May 9-June 15: Wiener Festwochen, Friedrich-Schmidy Platz 4, A-1080 Wien (010-43 42804).

PRAGUE SPRING FESTIVAL Mozart claimed that only the people of Prague really understood him, and this is, indeed, one of the most attractively planned and presented eastern European festivals. Now in its 40th year, the emphasis is on Czech music and musicians, faced with international artists. Highlights this year include Schreier and Svatoslav Richter, Marilyn Horne and Martin Katz; a choral evening of "Bohemian Singers Homage to Life and Peace"; Liszt's *Legend of St Elizabeth* performed by the Prague Philharmonic in St Vitus Cathedral; the Czech Philharmonic under Sir Charles Mackerras in a programme of Janacek and Martinu; and a violin recital by Joseph Suk.

May 12-June 14: Dum Umeou, Alsovo Nabraz 12, CS-11001, Prague (010-42 231 9281). Cedok, the Czechoslovak travel bureau, offers a four-day and one-week package to include tickets to festival events, transport, half-board accommodation and city tours. Prices from £232. Cedok, 17-18 Old Bond Street, London W1X 4RE (01-629 6058).

SETTIMANE MUSICALI INTERNAZIONALI (NAPLES) Founded by Neapolitan violinist, Salvatore Accardo, this festival has chamber music-making at its heart. The major performances at the Teatro San Carlo take place against a lively background of concerts and open rehearsals, involving young musicians from all over the world. As well as his French focus this year (Chausson, Debussy, Fauré, Ravel played in the beautiful 18th century Villa Pignatelli), the centenary of the death of Liszt will be celebrated in a concert performance of his opera *Don Sanche*. Weber's bicentenary is feted in an open-air performance of his orchestral work, *Battle and Victory*, in what is always an exciting climax to the festival at the Castel Sant' Elmo. May 14-31: Settimane Musicali Internazionali, Piazza del Martin 58, 80121 Naples (010-39 81 406011).

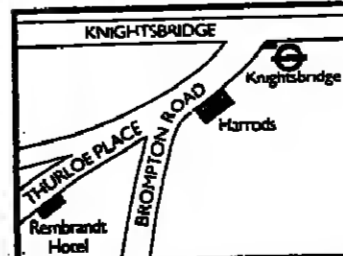
DROTTHINGHOLM COURT THEATRE FESTIVAL One of Sweden's, and, indeed, the world's most attractive and musically significant festivals, held in the 18th-century Court Theatre, where

Turn to page 24 and put the pages together for a pin-up guide

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TRAVEL

Heir to a flamboyant fortune

A whiff of spice on the Atlantic breeze can conjure up Lisbon's exotic past, Cindy Selby writes

The novelist Henry Fielding called Lisbon "the nastiest city in the world". But he was no robust Tom Jones when he said it. He had come to balmy Lisbon to recover his health and actually lost it entirely - dying in 1754 in a city that may, indeed, have had some nasty squalor behind the palatial facades of Brazilian gold.

In any case, Lisbon was devastated a year later by an appalling earthquake. It claimed 40,000 lives and wiped out the heart of the city. Only the upper quarters of Alfama and Bairro Alto survived. The rest were rebuilt along classical lines. So the present capital bears little resemblance to the Lisbon bequeathed by Fielding.

Visitors today see a city of elegant squares and avenues, coupled with some curiosities from the 1920s - mosaic pavements, art nouveau cafes. Yet there are still a few medieval labyrinths and the site is as grand as ever - on a switchback of hills overlooking the broad River Tagus.

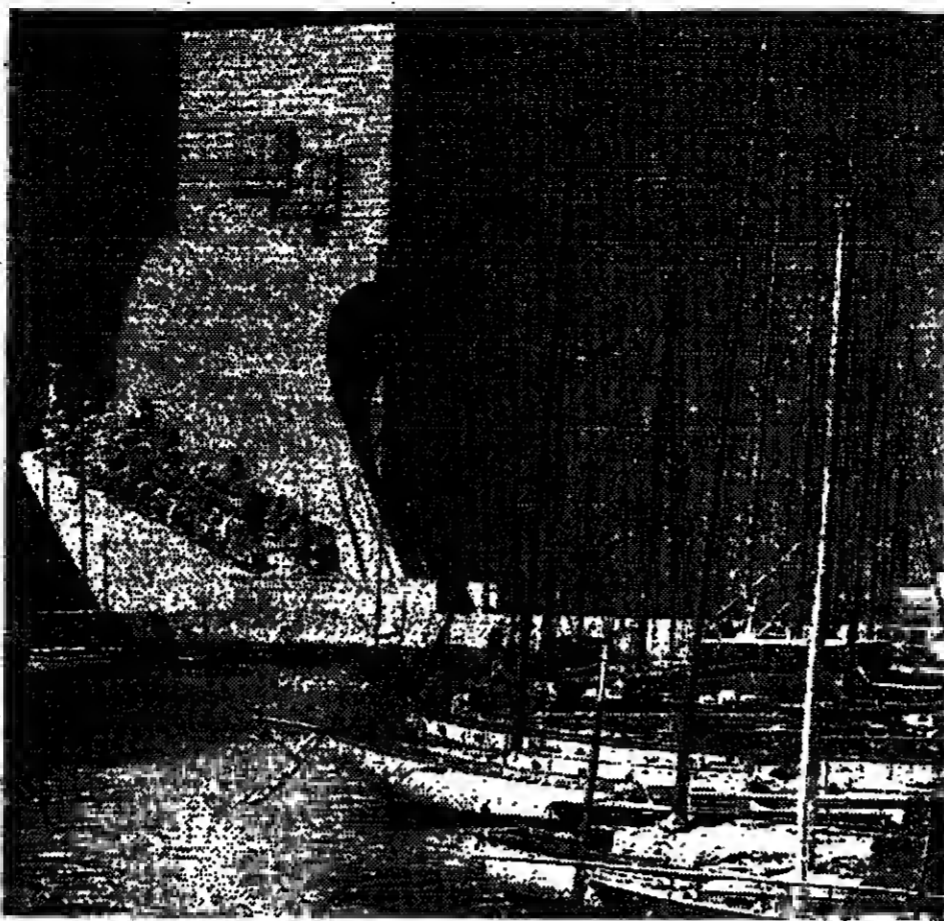
The port of Lisbon was once the most flamboyant in the world. In the 16th century, navigators like Vasco da Gama set sail for India and China and returned home laden with gems, silks and spices. Lisbon's westernmost district, which luckily suffered

little damage from the 1755 earthquake. So the buildings raised on the proceeds - and in celebration - of the discoveries are largely intact.

Most arresting is the Tower of Belem - a graceful L-shaped fortress jutting out to sea. It comes complete with drawbridge, dungeons, tunnels and views. From the tower one can stroll to the Jeronimos Monastery, an exquisite building of pale grey stone. The cloisters are famous for their double-decker structure, embellished with delicate carvings of ropes and shells. The maritime theme continues next door at the Naval Museum and on the water itself where skittish dinghies race about under the prow of a concrete ship - the Monument to the Discoveries.

Scafood, of course, features on every menu. I tried arroz de marisco - a delicious stew of rice and shellfish served steaming in an earthenware pot. The bill for that - and cheese, coffee, a bottle of vinho verde - came to just £3.80, a fairly typical price. The small, informal restaurants in the narrow streets of the Bairro Alto are the most popular. This is also the home of fado, Portugal's distinctively plaintive singing, accompanied by 12-string guitars. It's performed nightly in fado houses and is much patronized by the lisboetas - but visitors are welcome.

Despite a population of 1.5 million, Lisbon has little of the underlying violence of many cities of its size. Even at night, most areas



Of masts and men: the Monument to the Discoveries in Lisbon harbour

are safe. In Alfama, however, you're sure to get lost. It is a chaos of crooked streets, cobbled stairways and tilting houses - their balconies crammed with birds in cages, flowers to pots and grammys in black. Washing-lines zigzag across the alleys like bunting for a carnival. Alfama even sounds festive: church bells peal; children squat on doorsteps holding animated conversations; fishwives proclaim their wares with long, lusty cries.

I spent a long weekend at Quinta da Marinha, a new country club near Cascais offering prime facilities for sports and self-catering. Between the pine trees are 40 villas, each with an open fireplace and its own garden. There is swimming, tennis, golf (on an 18-hole course) and riding. A day trek with lunch to a monastery costs £15 a head.

For the same price you could hire a car for a day - if

you haven't already picked one up at the airport as part of a weekend package. I found a car useful for driving around the Quinta estate and for reaching the sights outside Lisbon: notably the castles of bosky Sintra and the salmon pink Palace of Queluz - where mad Queen Maria I used to water the flowers of the floral carpets.

But one can get by on public transport. Fast trains run all day - and half the night - between Sintra, Queluz, Cascais and Lisbon; while in the city itself taxis are cheap and trams even cheaper. They are Edwardian and battered, and still manage to clank jauntily up the steepest of hills before rumbling down to the river.

I never made it to the art galleries or markets. I still haven't ridden at Quinta nor walked along the cliffs to the westernmost point of Europe. A long weekend in Lisbon just isn't long enough. But that, Mr Fielding, is my only complaint.

Kentish spring in the air

Tunbridge Wells - sorry, Royal Tunbridge Wells - may be the place from which disgusted colonels fire off peppery letters to the BBC, but the town would much rather be known for a chance discovery made in 1606.

In that year one Dudley, Lord North happened upon a spring of health-giving mineral water that was to launch Tunbridge Wells as a foremost British spa, magnet of royalty and Beau Nash, elegant watering place for the cream of London society.

In the early 19th century a small girl was brought to the town by her mother for the summer holidays. "Dear Tunbridge Wells," wrote the future Queen Victoria, "I am so very fond of it". In 1909 her son, Edward VII, bestowed the royal prefix.

The search for historic Tunbridge Wells must start in The Pantiles, laid out as a tree-lined walk in 1630 and taking its name from the small clay tiles with which it was paved. Some of them are still there. The Pantiles was a pedestrian precinct long before the phrase was invented.

It is still possible to take the waters, from the spot at the northern end of The Pantiles

The bath house: reminder of a rich past

where the spring was discovered. A dipper - traditional name for a water dispenser - is on duty from Easter to September.

Other reminders of a rich past are the Bath House, where could be enjoyed "warm vapours", the Corn Exchange and the Assembly Rooms, once the focus of the town's social whirl.

The Pantiles has changed little for more than a century and remains a place of charm and character. It is also, to be frank, a little shabby. A £5 million "refurbishment" is under way, providing new shops and offices, a craft workshop and a museum. Admirers of the town must hope that it improves without destroying.



Prototype precinct: laid out as a tree lined avenue in 1630, The Pantiles has changed little in a hundred years

lent photographs in Tunbridge Wells As It Was, a booklet prepared by the local reference librarian, Jean Mauldon, and you soon realize that not all has changed and not all for the worse.

From The Pantiles make for the town centre by way of Chapel Place, being sure to take a look round the church of King Charles the Martyr, 1678, which has a fine plasterwork ceiling by the chief plasterer to Sir Christopher Wren. And, on the corner opposite, do not miss the secondhand bookshop, always the mark of a civilized community.

Up the High Street, still cosy despite the traffic, and past the railway station (opened in 1845) you come to the not inappropriately named Mount Pleasant, Mount Zion - a throwback to Puritan times - and, to the west of the town, Mount Ephraim, a road of hotels and big houses overlooking the Common.

Among them, set back behind chestnut trees, is the Spa Hotel, which was built as a country mansion in 1766 and assumed its current use in 1880. It still has much of the air of a country seat, with

TRAVEL NOTES

The Spa Hotel, Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, Kent (0892 47717) offers short-break holidays at £32.50 per person per night, including bed, breakfast and dinner. A health and fitness weekend is available from £55 a night, including full board and use of all the health facilities.

spacious grounds and large, high-ceilinged rooms, a haven from bustle and noise.

The hotel's latest pride, opened in September, is an "indoor leisure complex", which may sound like a sports stadium but is an extension of Tunbridge Wells's health giving properties by the modern means of sunbed, sauna, gymnasium and jacuzzi. The complex also offers courses in beauty therapy, so there is no excuse for not leaving fitter and more beautiful - than when you arrived.

Unlike most big hotels these days, the Spa is privately owned. That may explain the attention to old-fashioned per-

Health giving properties by the modern methods

sonal service, and another old-fashioned virtue, courtesy. The meals consist of huge portions, efficiently served, and if some of the dishes were sampled were on the rich side, there are dietary and vegetarian alternatives.

Nestling on the Kent-Sussex border, Tunbridge Wells is a modest drive away from Churchill's house at Westerham, or Kipling's at Burwash, the moated ruins of Bodiam Castle and the sea-fronts of Brighton and Eastbourne. Or you can simply stand on Mount Ephraim and remember Beau Nash and the little girl who became Queen Victoria and take in lungfuls of clean air that cost nothing.

Peter Waymark



TRAVEL NOTES

Suntours run weekend breaks to Lisbon, flying out from Heathrow on Fri evening and returning home at midday on Tues. Flights and four nights of self-catering at Quinta da Marinha cost around £188 per person. The golf package, which includes car hire and green fees, costs £247.

For more information contact Suntours, Madeira House, Corn Street, Witney, Oxon OX8 7BW (0993 76956).

TRAVEL NEWS

Making the most of Malta

Holidays in Malta next winter are expected to be at least 10 per cent cheaper as a result of measures taken by the Maltese Government.

British tour operators have negotiated a guaranteed exchange rate for 1986-87 winter holidays as well as a reduction in the cost of aviation fuel picked up in Malta by charter airlines. The Maltese government is also investing large sums on improving tourist amenities.

Malta's summer bookings are 50 per cent ahead of last year and several holiday companies have already laid on extra charter flights.

Gourmets afloat

A Mediterranean cruise for gourmets is to operate on P & O's Sea Princess, departing from Southampton on August 27. BBC's Breakfast Time cookery expert Glynn Christian will be on board to give demonstrations and lectures and Charles Metcalfe, a leading authority on wine, will arrange tastings. Prices start at £1,330.

Greyhound have introduced a five-day Go-As-You-Please "Ameripass" ticket priced at \$50 (about £34.50) for travel on any of its long distance coach services within the United States, but not in Canada. The pass cannot be bought in North America but is available from travel agents in the UK.

No handicap

The Swedish National Tourist Office has published a guide for handicapped travellers planning a holiday in Sweden. It has a full listing of suitable accommodation to hotels, chalet villages and camp-sites and also gives details of centres where people with limited mobility can take part in sports activities. The guide is available at the Tourist Office, 3 Cork Street, London W1X 1HA (01-437 5816).

Fly to the Faroes

Icelandair plans to resume direct air services between the UK and the Faroe Islands after a gap of 16 years with a weekly service starting in May. Flights will operate from Glasgow's Abbotsinch Airport to Vaagar, with a two-hour ferry and coach transfer to Torshavn, the capital.

Philip Ray

Advertisement for Cititalia, featuring a map of Italy and text: "Say yes to Cititalia and say yes to the best of Italy. Cititalia: still the greatest of Italian holiday choices - still great value. The most wonderful beaches, islands, lakes and mountains under the sun. Great cities of history and culture, self catering or two and three centre holidays and a variety of travel arrangements."

Advertisement for India, featuring a map of India and text: "INDIA Discover the mystique of India, with its magnificent art and architecture, ever-changing cultures, and beautiful scenery. We offer many ways to experience the fascinating land ranging from a 10-day 'Glimpses of the Raj' to 'The Empress of India', a grand once-in-a-lifetime tour celebrating the centenary of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. Each journey is fully escorted from the departure airport."

Advertisement for Brussels Bruges Luxembourg, featuring a map of the region and text: "Brussels Bruges Luxembourg Five a free copy of an attractive poster delightfully illustrated by Audie together with a brochure on individual exclusive holidays to these beautiful cities."

Advertisement for Bournemouth, featuring a map of the town and text: "So much more besides the sea Quality hotels, apartments, friendly guest houses. Pine scented chimes. Warmer sea - miles of soft clean sand. Eurobeach standards exceeded. Spring Special Events: Health Week June 8-14, Flower Festival June 14-22, Sophisticated shopping. Sport of every sort."

Advertisement for Jersey, featuring a map of the island and text: "Spring in Jersey - the value's irresistible. With hotel and guest-house prices at their sunniest. Spring is also Festival time, with an exciting carnival atmosphere, open air markets and bands parading through the towns. In Jersey, Spring is always enjoyably sprung. JERSEY Where Britain blends with France."

Advertisement for Nile Cruises, featuring a map of the Nile river and text: "Prepare to have your breath taken away. The sheer spectacle and timeless majesty of the Nile have enthralled travellers for thousands of years. A Swan Hellenic Nile cruise offers you the unique opportunity to experience a two-week holiday on the most historic, most enigmatic river on earth."

Advertisement for Poitou Charentes, featuring a map of the region and text: "Come to the sunniest part of Western France. The Sun? Certainly. Poitou-Charentes has the highest sunshine record of the Atlantic coast. Here you will find Europe's best Romanesque architecture, bustling ports, lively towns, rolling hills and peaceful valleys, the Marais Poitevin, a green gladed labyrinth of inland waterways, and the peaceful river Charente which you can discover on a cabin cruiser."

CHESSE

Kasparov reigns in Spain

In Spain they are wild about Garry. At the end of January, Kasparov was invited to Barcelona where he received the award for Absolute International Sportsman of the Year from the paper El Mundo Deportivo.

The world champion then went on to the town of Alcoy where he was greeted tumultuously by the locals, who organized a live chess game in his honour.

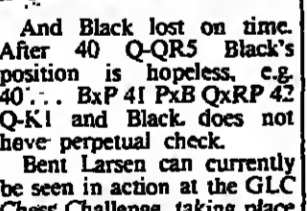
Then Kasparov secured an overwhelming victory in the annual Chess Oscar presented by El Corte Ingles. On February 25, as World Chess Federation representative, I presided over the annual vote of the International Chess Journalists Association.

Kasparov received 1356 votes against Karpov (972), Timman (778) and Yusupov (757). The Oscar has now only been awarded for 19 years, yet only six people have succeeded in winning this most prestigious of elected chess awards.

The select list runs: Bent Larsen, Boris Spassky, Bobby Fischer, Anatoly Karpov, Victor Korchnoi and now, of course, Kasparov.

There is great interest in Spain in organizing a match between Kasparov and either Jubejovic or Larsen, both of whom have strong Spanish connections.

Here is a bombshell finish by Kasparov from an earlier game against Bent Larsen:



White: Kasparov. Black: Larsen. Bugojno, 1982. From the diagram, the game proceeded:

15 Rf3 Black now has just one way to salvage his Queen.

16 Kf2 Kasparov does not yet pause to recapture. The threat is now 35 Q-Q8ch.

17 Bf3 In spite of his extra piece, Larsen is helpless against the armada of white pawns.

18 Qd4 And Black lost on time. After 40 Q-Q8 Black's position is hopeless.

40... BxP 41 PxR QxRP 42 Q-K1 and Black does not have perpetual check.

Bent Larsen can currently be seen in action at the GLC Chess Challenge, taking place at the Great Eastern Hotel until March 27.

Raymond Keene

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 900

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, March 20, 1986.

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, March 20, 1986.

Messages from a sad, mad era

"Daddy, what did you do in the Great War?" The recruiting posters spawned by the First World War constituted the most naive and cruel psychological blackmail.

In this most famous example Daddy, obviously a perfectly decent chap, is looking confused and guilty while being interrogated by his priggish daughter.

Another choice example was addressed: "To the Women of London: Is Your Best Boy Wearing Khaki?"

The implication being that if he wasn't your husband, sto or sweetheart was not worthy of you. Contemporary songs reiterated the theme:

"We watched you playing cricket and every kind of game. At football, golf and polo you men have made your name. But now your country calls you to play your part in war."

The posters of that sad, mad era naturally had less scope to get their message across than the songs.

Hence the visual impact had to be strong, the legend succinct: "Men of Britain will you stand by this?"

"The Empire Needs Men", "Everyone should do his bit", and "There is still a place in the line for you" shrieked

The posters that express the spirit of the First World War are now collectors' items

from every billboard in a very effective two-year campaign for volunteers before conscription was introduced.

Maurice Rickards, founder of the Ephemera Society, says "Their sick psychology reflects the social mores of the time, the flavour and climate of a watershed in human history when we had deliberately mass murder".

Where to Go: The Ephemera Society, 12 Fitzroy Square, London W1 01-367 7723. Dealers: Tony Scanlon, 17 Airie Gardens, London W8 (01-727 1594).

Philip Granville, Lord's Gallery, 26 Wellington Road, London NW8 (01-722 4444) by appointment only.

Posters of the First World War by Maurice Rickards (published by Evelyn Adams and Mackay) is currently out of print but should be available in libraries.

Victoria Mather expected to fetch a few hundred. Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-493 8080). Sale Mon 11am.

PILES OF QUILTS: More than 100 quilts ranging in price from £50 to £500 are to go under the hammer at Christie's sale of costumes and textiles.

7pm and Tues 9am-11.30am. Sale Tues 2pm. LINE VERSUS COLOUR: Line drawings by famous British artists are selling at Christie's for less than £1,000.

Geraldine Norman Hoofing it: pulling power of the National Shire Horse Show performed at the Royal Opera House over the past 40 years.

NATIONAL SHIRE HORSE SHOW: Some 262 of these magnificent beasts are expected at the show - the biggest since the 1930s.

Judy Froshaug This is Nelson country, as every other pub sign in the area boasts. Take the A149 from King's Lynn, pass a black-capped and cream-topped windmill and park in the tiny harbour village of Burnham Overy Staithe.

John Sweeney sand dunes, which dip and bob until the gun-metal of the North Sea fills the horizon. The beach is a desert of fine, white sand. Occasionally porpoises or whales are washed up, their bloated carcasses seeping until only their skeletons and their stink remain.

John Sweeney After lunch, go gently uphill towards the almshouses, curve rightwards through the scattering deer, with an ugly monument to your right and the aptly backside of Holkham Hall close to your left.

John Sweeney The winners of Prize concise No 894 are: C. Allsop, Middleton Avenue, Crosshill, Colnor, Derbyshire; and P. H. Wardle, Longcroft Road, Dronfield Woodhouse, Sheffield.

SOLUTION TO NO 894 (last Saturday's Prize concise) ACROSS: 1 Fashionable 9 Arbitrator 10 Cycle 11 Solt 13 Earn 16 Curd 17 Encore 18 Test 20 Deal 21 Triste 22 Exit 23 Boss 25 Gem 28 Later 29 Abolish 30 Snow leopard

SOLUTION TO NO 894 (last Saturday's Prize concise) ACROSS: 1 Fashionable 9 Arbitrator 10 Cycle 11 Solt 13 Earn 16 Curd 17 Encore 18 Test 20 Deal 21 Triste 22 Exit 23 Boss 25 Gem 28 Later 29 Abolish 30 Snow leopard

Address

COLLECTING



Psychological warfare: such posters called millions to the trenches. These examples were in collections of four and five that fetched £240-£330 at Sotheby's this week



Geraldine Norman

BRIDGE

Penalties paid by the careless

Poor technique is not the only reason for failures at the table

Technical mistakes are always instructive, but perhaps less interesting than those which are mainly attributable to other causes.

Rubber bridge. Love all. Dealer North.

Bridge hand diagram showing cards for West, North, East, and South.

West led the ♠5 while South grumbled. He won the first trick with the ♠K, on which East followed with the ♠J.

That's torn it. South mused. Even this West can hardly fail to find the right continuation.

But this West was deep in thought. Eventually, to South's delight, he continued with the ♠A and another heart, on which East discarded the ♠5.

Up to a point, declarer had managed this unedifying contract well. Partly from a sense of relief, I suspect, he then took his eye off the ball. The

only sensible explanation for West's failure to play a second round of clubs was that he did not have one.

If the diamonds were 3-3, declarer only needed two heart tricks, so he could have given himself the extra chance that West had the ♠A.

The next hand occurred in the Venice Cup match between Great Britain and Taipei in Sao Paulo.

The young women's team from Taipei made a considerable impression with their accurate bidding, which at one stage of their match against Britain produced an astonishing 54-0 lead.

As usual Taipei hit the target when they reached six hearts on these North-South hands.

Great Britain v Taipei. 1st round robin. Love all.

Declarer received the lead of the ♠Q, which she won in hand. After drawing trumps in two rounds, she immediately took the diamond finesse. This impetuous play was deservedly punished, because declarer failed to exploit the extra chances which the spade suit offers.

If East holds either the KQ of spades or, as here, three spades including an honour, declarer, by starting with a spade from dummy, can establish the ♠J for the crucial club discard.

The Taipei women's card play was less impressive than their bidding, but did declarer's error stem from poor technique alone? No, I believe she recognized that a shoal of points could turn on the diamond finesse. Like the impatient gambler, she could not wait to learn her fate.

Jeremy Flint

OUTINGS

East of England Showground, Alwalton, Peterborough, Cambs (0733 234451). Today 8.30am-4pm. Adult £4, child £2.

A NOISE IN YOUR EYE: New exhibition of "sound sculptures" - a collection of extraordinary objects that visitors can "play" to produce a wide variety of sounds in quite unexpected ways.

Concourse Gallery, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141). From today, Mon-Sat 10am-8pm, Sun and Bank Holidays noon-8pm. Adult £150, child 75p.

KIPLINCOTES DERBY: First run in 1619, this claims to be the oldest flat race in the country. Anyone with a sturdy horse may enter, though weight must not be less than 10 stone.

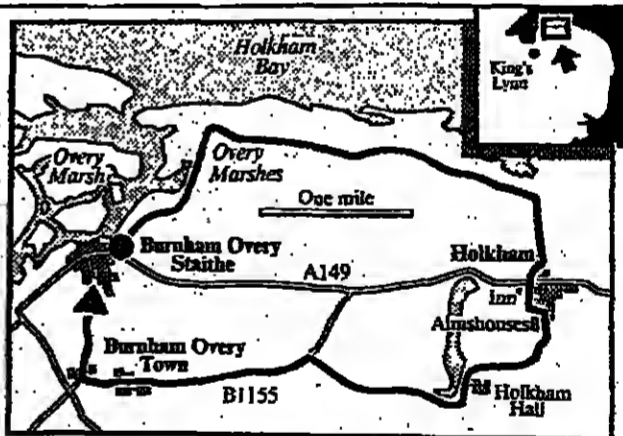
Kiplincotes, Middleton-on-the-Wolds, Humberstone. Further information from Susan Hillaby (0482 651207). Thurs, from 11am.

Judy Froshaug



This is Nelson country, as every other pub sign in the area boasts. Take the A149 from King's Lynn, pass a black-capped and cream-topped windmill and park in the tiny harbour village of Burnham Overy Staithe.

It is a flat, bleak landscape, peopled by barking Vs of Brent geese and other refugees from a harsher cold. Eventually the flatness corrugates into



After lunch, go gently uphill towards the almshouses, curve rightwards through the scattering deer, with an ugly monument to your right and the aptly backside of Holkham Hall close to your left.

John Sweeney sand dunes, which dip and bob until the gun-metal of the North Sea fills the horizon. The beach is a desert of fine, white sand.

John Sweeney The winners of Prize concise No 894 are: C. Allsop, Middleton Avenue, Crosshill, Colnor, Derbyshire; and P. H. Wardle, Longcroft Road, Dronfield Woodhouse, Sheffield.

IN THE GARDEN

Tubby tubers

Now that we are well in to March, those with warm greenhouses can begin preparing their stored dahlia tubers for this year's flowers.

Take the tubers out of store and make sure they are plump and not too wrinkled; the fingers should be quite firm. Dip any shrivelled ones into a bucket of warm water to let them take up some moisture before proceeding.

The best way of raising dahlias is through cuttings; alternatives are to divide the tubers or to plant dormant ones direct into the garden.

Cuttings are produced by encouraging the tubers to break into growth and using these shoots as cutting material. Prepare shallow boxes and place about 1 inch of compost in the bottom of the box.

Make sure the names of the tubers are clearly visible, then plant them in the boxes and riddle compost between them to about 1 inch below the rim of the box.

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Advertisement for 'WE THUNDERED OUT' featuring a large image of the book cover and a portrait of Philip Howard.

THE TIMES COOK



Hot tips with cool coriander

The weekend is the perfect time to plan special meals, browse through the market place in search of those unusual ingredients and conjure up something new for family and friends.

Breaking the mould and getting away with it adds excitement to cooking, as it does to most things. One way of exploring ingredients is to use them in unexpected ways.

Coriander Pesto Serves 5-6 1 bunch coriander 2 cloves garlic, peeled 30g (1oz) ground almonds 150ml (1/2 pint) olive oil 85g (3oz) of freshly grated parmesan cheese

Wash the coriander and shake it dry before stripping the leaves from the stems. The stems can be used in soup. Put the leaves in a food-processor or blender (or make the sauce by hand with a pestle and mortar) and add the garlic, roughly chopped, and the almonds. Process briefly, then with the machine running, add the oil in a steady stream.

The Italians long ago worked out which pasta shapes go best with which sauces and settled on tagliatelle with pesto. Cook the pasta in plenty of boiling salted water. Drain and transfer it to a warm serving bowl. Add the pesto and toss to coat each noodle with the sauce. Serve at once.

As a rough guide to quantities, allow about 450g (1lb) of fresh pasta for four good main course servings, and about half that weight of dried tagliatelle.

Chopped coriander can also be used where parsley might be expected - sprinkled on

Brilliance in jet age sparkle

Beryl Downing offers the novice buyer a comprehensive guide to the most engaging fashions in jewellery

Diamonds are trumps at this time of year. Easter engagements are in the air, the jewellery business should be booming - but not if British bridegrooms can help it.

In the United States and Japan a groom is prepared to spend up to three months' salary on an engagement ring. In Britain, according to De Beers, he is loath to part with more than ten days' pay. We are a diamond-loving nation, the company says, for 75 per cent of brides choose diamond-only rings, but the average cost is £193 - often less than is spent on the wedding dress.

Why? Because there is no Habit and no Next in the jewellery business. Young couples have good, mass-produced design in furnishing and in fashion in every high street, but where are the trendy high street jewellers? The jewellery trade is ripe for a Conran approach, says David Thomas, who is responsible for buying the modern collection for the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths and who this year celebrates his 25th anniversary as goldsmith and jeweller.

Too many jewellers are under-financed and they aren't take the chance on designs that might not sell, so they are miles behind all the other retailers - which drags the whole industry down. So if you want to buy an engagement ring, or any piece of real jewellery, what should you look for and where should you go - the designer-maker, the auction room or the antique dealer? You can't acquire a lifetime's experience from a few paragraphs, but here are some basic guidelines.

DESIGNER-MAKERS Be prepared to invest in a young designer if you like the style - you don't need to pay for a well-known name to get value and at least the piece you get will be hand-made and individual, rather than a mass-produced piece. But remember there is no such thing as a bargain in precious jewels - everyone knows someone who will do a cut-price job, but you can't get quality for cowries. Style-setting designers are reflecting the feeling for bigger, more flamboyant jewellery. Leo de Vroonen, who this week won a De Beers international award for his

SHOPPING



ON THE MEND

Here are some golden rules for anyone who needs to have their jewellery repaired. The best protection is to take repairs to a jeweller who does all his work on the premises, so that no work is sent out. Look for a jeweller with FGA (Fellow of the Gemologists' Association) after his name - he will be able to judge the quality of your stones. (Anyone can become a member of the National Association of Goldsmiths, but this is no guide to qualifications.) Choose a long-established jeweller who has a reputation to protect, and take note of cautionary tales. Be warned - never agree to anything unless you know exactly what is to be done. This is particularly important if the piece is antique, as modern techniques may not match old craftsmanship.

impossible to tell without removing the stone. The most desirable pieces, and therefore those that will increase in value, are those with animal, bird or flower motifs - the Victorians were obsessed by them. The next sale of fine jewels at Phillips is on March 25 at 1.30pm and includes pieces from about £200. Viewing is on March 21 and 24 and on the morning of the sale.

ANTIQUE DEALERS "Don't be afraid of asking lots of questions", is the advice given by Vivienne Becker, author of a superb and lavishly illustrated book, Art Nouveau Jewellery (Thames and Hudson, £25). "But", she adds, "there is such a thing as being too suspicious. Some people are so afraid of being done that they miss really pretty things that might not be great coups but will give a lot of joy. Think

of it as buying a piece of history". However, having worked in the antiques business and seen it change during the past 14 years from "an artistic and fun occupation to really tough big business", she warns that it is possible to fake almost anything - and that applies particularly to art nouveau and art deco. David Callaghan of Hancock's, the London jewellers who have been leaders in art nouveau design since it began, offer a simple rule of thumb - original English pieces were not hallmarked, French ones

had - John Benjamin suggests looking for Berlin Iron Work and Victorian cut steel work. Diana Foley and Madeleine Popper at Grays in the Mews Antiques Market are leading specialists in both forms of jewellery - the one developed as a Berlin war effort against Napoleon, the other front decorative sword hilts. The Berlin work is becoming rare and is therefore not cheap - delicate iron filigree medallions made into bracelets are about £600, brooches are from £200. The cut steel (not marcasite, which is individually set pieces of iron pyrite) is available as small brooches at £45, shoe buckles £62 a pair, elaborate necklaces at about £300 - but all likely to increase in value, if that is your main objective.

If it is not, before you go shopping for any piece of jewellery remember Colette's advice: "Don't ever wear artistic jewellery. It wrecks a woman's reputation."

DRINK

Roads back to Rhône

"I have an 1835 price list on my desk", says Gérard Jaboulet with a smile that is part pleasure and part pride, "that quotes Hermitage and Haut Brion at five francs a bottle, while Mouton and Latour are at four".

M. Jaboulet is keen to explain to me that, before the phylloxera aphid's devastation of French vineyards in the late 19th century, the Rhône's greatest red wine, Hermitage, was as at least as revered as the greatest clarets. Bordeaux's vineyards (because of the relatively simple process of grafting on to American rootstocks) had recovered from the aphid attack by the end of the century, but by the time the Rhône's tortuously steep hillside vineyards at Hermitage and elsewhere had been rebuilt, the region's earlier reputation had been forgotten, and wine drinkers transferred their allegiance to Bordeaux and Burgundy.

Jaboulet believes that the Rhône is only now catching up. "It takes a long time to come back", he sighs. But more optimistically he explains that the Rhône's production and export figures have improved dramatically in the past 30 years; in 1950 the Rhône's total crop was 350,000 hectolitres, of which 7 per cent was exported, compared with 1980's harvest of 2 million hectolitres, of which 37 per cent was exported.

Plainly we are all beginning to appreciate the Rhône; but do today's wine buffs rate it alongside premier grand cru clarets? Jaboulet leaps to the defence of his region, citing with pride a recent blind tasting of young wines at which his own Hermitage La Chapelle had

growing at Hermitage." Jaboulet is as up-to-date with the modern movements of the Syrah grape as he is with the old. He enjoys Penfold's Grange Hermitage from Australia: "It looks a little bit like Côte Rhône".

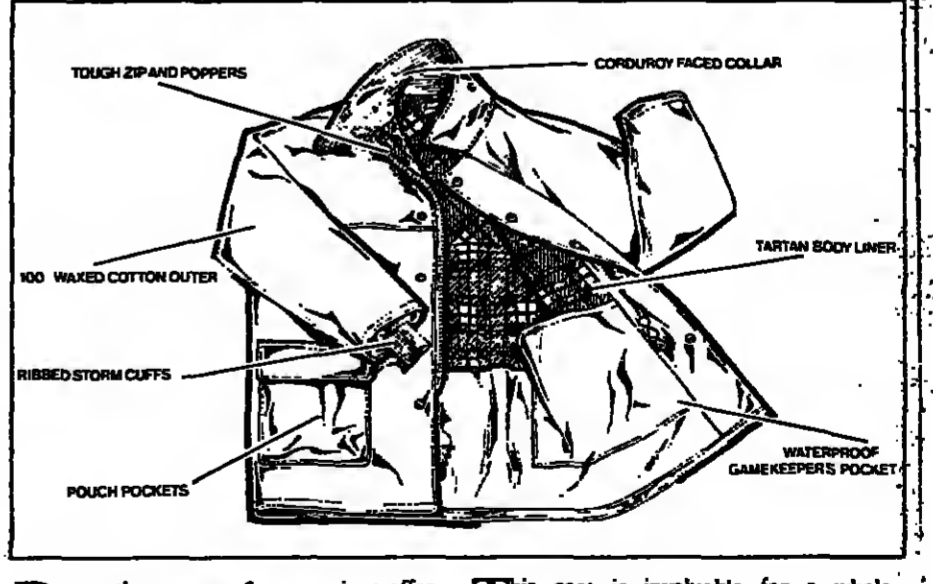
The Rhône is still the Syrah grape's stronghold and Paul Jaboulet Aîné's wines are some of the finest the region produces: in a good year such as 1983 there is little, it seems, that is not worth buying. Even a humble '83 Côte du Rhône, chez Jaboulet, with its touch of Syrah in the blend, is a delicious, big, ripe raspberry-redolent wine. (OW Loeb, 15 Jermyn Street, London SW1, £4.34.)

Similarly the '83 Vacqueyras, that southern Côte du Rhône neighbour of Gigondas, is at Jaboulet's a lovely deep-purple, juicy-fruity wine that reminded me of both black and red summer fruits. (OW Loeb, £5.09.) At this price level Jaboulet's Crozes-Hermitage is an even better buy, and their straight '83 Crozes-Hermitage with its truffle, fruity smell and taste, is a good value at £4.74 (O.W. Loeb) or £3.59 at Majestic Wine Warehouse.

But what would perhaps please Gérard Jaboulet most is that OW Loeb is currently selling to the trade a limited second allocation of the '83 Hermitage La Chapelle. (Jaboulet rates this at 19.5 out of 20, half a point behind the legendary 1961.) When stockists and prices have been worked out (write to OW Loeb for stockist details) it is likely to fetch about £30 a bottle: exactly the price that '83 Mouton, Latour and Haut-Brion fetched.

Jane MacQuitty

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Classical records REVIEW

A master in charge of Beethoven

Beethoven: Symphonies Nos 1-9 Leipzig Gewandhaus/Masur. Philips 416 274-2 (6 CDs)



In rehearsal: Wilhelm Furtwängler, the great German conductor, with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra

I had intended to spend most of this review on the versions of the Beethoven symphonies newly released on compact disc...

Mengelberg's Beethoven seems histrionic, and not only by comparison. Obviously there is Dutch piety that keeps his recordings alive...

Furtwängler is another matter, speaking as cogently now as ever he did. Apart from the Beethoven coupling, he offers the nearest approach to the yearning Byronic dissatisfaction of Schumann's D minor symphony...

Nobody is going to be worried about sound quality when listening to Furtwängler

Finally some new music. There is a slight Beethoven connection in Gidon Kremer's astonishing recital of virtuoso solo violin music.

ry and devilment of Kremer's playing. The title track, Shnitke's A Paganini, fuses its ghosts into more of a perpetual stringy suspensio...

The Nono quartet. Fragmento-Stillie is disappointing. The fragments appear as evocations and memories of Webern and Berg, but deprived of all energy...

Paul Griffiths

Unusual variations on choral themes

One hesitates to speculate about how many fine recordings of Elgar's Enigma Variations already languish in some archival vault at EMI. Sir Charles Mackerras's new account does not strike me as sufficiently different or distinguished to warrant a whole-hearted recommendation...

Often (as in "Nimrod") he gives strong prominence to a cello or viola counterpoint, eliciting winsome playing from the London Philharmonic Orchestra's lower strings in the process.

But the mysterious passions of that most enigmatic variation of all, No 13, seem all too well-hidden here, and rather a bland quality pervades Mackerras's shaping of other slow movements, too.

Elgar: Enigma Variations, Falstaff LPO/Mackerras. EMI EL27 0374 (1 black disc, also cassette)

Villa-Lobos, Castelnuovo-Tedesco: Guitar Concertos Moreno, Mexico PO/Batiz. EMI EL27 0330 (1 black disc, also cassette)

From hotter climes comes an attractive disc of guitar concertos. Castelnuovo-Tedesco had the misfortune to write his in 1939 - the same year as Rodrigo produced his Concerto de Aranjuez - and the Italian's charming neo-classical

work has been overshadowed ever since. Both here and in Villa-Lobos's more ardently rhapsodic 1951 concerto Alfonso Moreno reveals an excellent technique and a flamboyant, if sometimes rather splashy, approach to this quintessential guitar repertoire.

Lastly a fascinating piece of reconstruction: of the 80-year-old Heinrich Schütz's "opus ultimum", here called by its rather fanciful sub-title, Der Schwanengesang. Seven of its nine vocal parts were found in 1900, lost again during the Second World War, and rediscovered in 1970. The organ part surfaced in a Cologne second-hand bookshop in 1930.

Wolfram Stende put the whole lot together, adding the two missing lines and supplying the entire orchestration (recorders, cornets, trombones, strings and various continuo instruments, all disposed according to impeccably scholarly guidelines) for a 1981 performance in Dresden, Schütz's home town. The edition was published last year.

It is essentially a superbly varied German setting of Psalm 119 plus Psalm 100 and the Magnificat. The rich and fluid amalgam of plainsong, polychordal antiphonal writing, solo and concerted passages, and immensely well-crafted sections where Gregorian melodies are set against fast-moving choral textures all support the assertion that Schütz intended this as his art's summation.

Richard Morrison

Glory in defeat for men at war

FILMS ON TV

Sir Richard Attenborough once remarked that all war films are really anti-war films; but that is not necessarily how audiences perceive them...

Much of the quality of John Ford's They Were Expendable (BBC1, tomorrow, 3.05-5.15pm) is that it overturns the clichés. It is by no means a tract against war but nor is it a piece of simple jingoism.

The film is set against the background of the worst defeat suffered by the United States during the Second World War, the fall of the Philippines to the Japanese.

Yet the film is far from being downbeat and pessimistic. Ford's theme, one that appears several times in his work, is glory in defeat.

The film is set against the background of the worst defeat suffered by the United States during the Second World War, the fall of the Philippines to the Japanese.

THE WEEK AHEAD By Peter Waymark



Standing by: John Wayne (left) and Robert Montgomery take a break on location for They Were Expendable.

The Bulkeley character, called Brickley in the film, is played by Robert Montgomery, who also directed the final scenes after Ford was badly injured in a fall.

They Were Expendable is a war film concerned less with the mechanics of battle...

RECOMMENDED

- The Bank Dick (1940): W.C. Fields in a surreal comedy (Channel 4, tomorrow, 3.55-5.15pm).
- Strawberry Fields (1985): West German film about two political extremists on the run (Channel 4, Thurs, 9.30-11.20pm).
- Sweet William (1978): Sam Waterston as an engaging philanderer (BBC1, Fri, 11.35pm-1.05am).
- First British television showing.

Facing up to politics

RADIO

As its title implies, I'm Very Glad You Asked Me That (Radio 4 long wave, Fri, 11-11.45am) is an examination of that absorbing media institution, the political interview. It is a programme stuffed with gems.

As the presenter, Patrick Hamman, reminds us the radio and television confrontation as we know it today is of fairly recent origin. Even in the early 1960s, most questioners were almost too embarrassed to confront their prey.

The more aggressive style was the invention of Robin Day, though even he could be cut down to size by Mrs Thatcher calling him "Mrs Day" instead of "Mr Robin".

Given her chance on Nationwide, Mrs Diana Gould managed by quiet, persistent probing over the sinking of the Belgrano to reduce even the Iron Lady to disconcerted evasion.

After the Welsh it is the turn of the Irish to have a week of drama on Radio 4. The most substantial item promises to be Remembrance (Mon, 8.15-8.45pm), a love story involving two 60-year-olds who have lost sons murdered during the Irish troubles.

Remembrance is written by Graham Reid, who in the television "Billy" plays and, more recently, six dramas with an Ulster setting under the title Ties of Blood, has shown himself one of the most sensitive interpreters of the Irish tragedy, able to get beneath the sectarian feuds and look at the thoughts and emotions of ordinary people caught unwillingly in the conflict.

Vaughan Williams in His Time (Radio 3, today, 2-4pm) is the first in eight weekly programmes, each featuring one of the symphonies of Ralph Vaughan Williams and recreating the concert programmes in which they were first heard.

A Sea Symphony began as Songs of the Sea, with words by the poet Walt Whitman whom Vaughan Williams described as "one of the three greatest human beings I would have liked to have met".

The other landmark is the 40th anniversary of Alistair Cooke's Letter From America (Radio 4, Fri, 9.30-9.45pm) started on March 24, 1946 as American Letter, assumed its present title in 1949 and is heard in every continent. Next week's edition is number 1,935.

Man on the prowl for plaudits

TELEVISION

If one of the glories of British television is that it can devote two hours of peak time-viewing to a dissertation on man, where he came from and where he is going, then Origins (BBC2, Tues, 8.30-10.35pm) should be set to win the plaudits.

But critical faculties should not be suspended simply because it is a worthy project. It is one of these big co-production jobs, involving eight countries each with their own version and linkman.

Thinking Aloud has settled into an excellent series, intelligently chaired by Bryan



Jonathan Miller, co-presenter of Origins

Thinking Aloud has settled into an excellent series, intelligently chaired by Bryan

TIMES CHOICE

ROCK AND JAZZ

ROBERT CRAY: There is no more authentic rhythm 'n' blues band to be heard than Cray's quartet providing soulful backgrounds for his pleasant voice and eloquent guitar.

MOSE ALLISON: He may not be a part of the promotional campaign for Absolute Beginners, but there never was a cooler spokesman for the Beat Generation.

JAIN BALLAMY QUARTET: A superb unit of young British jazz musicians featuring inevitably - the piano of the brilliant Django Bates.

THE POGUES: St Patrick's Night revels, and beyond, from Elvis Costello's favourite band.

CAMDEN JAZZ WEEK: Kicks off on Mon with Courtney Pine's quartet and the astonishing Loose Tubes, followed on Tues and Thurs by the all-star quartet of John Surman (saxophones), Albert Mangelsdorff (trombone), Dave Holland (bass) and Elvin Jones (drums) - what they used to call a "dream band".



Star on sax: John Surman, appearing in Camden

and most highly recommended. Wed is for Melba Liston, the arranger and trombonist, leading a 17-piece all-British band. Hipsters, flippers and finger-poppin' daddies will already have booked for Fri and Sat, devoted to Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers plus the young dance troupes called (DJ), the Jazz Delectors and the Jazz Five.

CONCERTS

SOLO BACH: The fine American cellist Lynn Harrell plays three popular unaccompanied Bach suites: Nos 1, 5 and 6.

SIBELIUS/RACHMANINOV: Vladimir Ashkenazy and the RPO in Sibelius's Symphony No 5 and Valse Triste, and Rachmaninov's Symphony No 3.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191), credit cards 01-928 8800. Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

MAHLER/SALONEN: The Philharmonia Orchestra is conducted by Esa-Pekka Salonen in Mahler's Symphony No 7.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL, Mon, 7.30pm.

MAHLER/TENNSTEDT: Mahler's Symphony No 6 is performed by the LPO under Klaus Tennstedt.

SOLENN MASS: With the Tallis Choir, ECO and soloists, Jeffrey Tate conducts Beethoven's Missa Solemnis.

WILD ABOUT LISZT: To judge from his earlier appearances, Earl Wild's three Liszt recitals, marking the centenary of the composer's death, should be sensational.

Sonnets and some of the Mephisto music and with Kyung Wha Chung in the Violin Concerto.

DEBUSSY/BERLIOZ: Ashkenazy and the RPO again, this time in Debussy's Nocturnes and La Mer, and with Jesse Norman in Berlioz's La Mort de Cleopatre.

PASSION OF ST JOHN: Hilary Davan Watson conducts the Holst Singers and City of London Sinfonia in the St John Passion by Bach.

ROYAL OPERA: Andrei Tarkovsky is in so Covent Garden's new Flegende Holänder which opens on Mon (7.30pm) is being directed by Mike Ashman, making his house debut.

Sibelius's Pelléas et Melisande music and with Kyung Wha Chung in the Violin Concerto.

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opera The Snow Maiden, based on Ostrovsky's fairy-tale. Soloists include Anne Dawson and Eiddwen Harry. The conductor is Howard Williams.

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BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: General public booking opens this week for May and June performances of The Magic Flute, Parsifal and Bussini's Doctor Faust.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY: Booking open for Stratford's third theatre, The Swan, which opens in April with The Two Noble Kinsmen followed by Every Man in his Humour and The Rover.

THEATRE opens new season with Romeo and Juliet (previews from March 31) with Flight and The Art of Success at the Other Place. Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 295623).

SOUTH BANK CONCERTS: Personal and phone booking for April programme which includes Yehudi Menuhin 70th birthday concert. South Bank Concert Hall, London, SE1, 01-3191 (credit cards), 01-928 3002 (information).

ALDEBURGH FESTIVAL: Postal booking opens this week. Festival focusses this year on Hans Werner

Henze, who is composer-in-residence, June 8-22. Aldeburgh Foundation, High Street, Aldeburgh, Suffolk, 072 885 2935. Tel/personal booking from March 24.

WOMEN BEWARE WOMEN: Last performances today of play by Thomas Middleton and Howard Barker, in production by William Gaskill, with Nigel Davenport, Maggie Steed, Joanne Whalley, April and 8pm. Royal Court, Sloane Square, London SW1 (01-730 1745).



Star on stage: Rosalind Plowright, at Covent Garden

CAMDEN FESTIVAL: A week for the literati: George MacDonald's novel Phantastes gives name and inspiration to a new opera by Paul Barker, presented at The Place on Tues, Thurs and Mar 22 in a double-bill with Richard Hawkin's new Other Voices, based on the poetry of Rilke.

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Concerts: Max Harrison: Rock & Jazz. Richard Williams: Opera: Hilary Finch. Bookings: Anne Whitehouse



**WATCH OUT JAPAN,
HERE COMES SPIKEY DODDS**

Spikey Dodds is a typical British sixteen year old, leaving school this year.

But to Japan, and our other international competitors, he's a big threat.

That's because this year

he'll be starting 2 years paid skill training on the new YTS.

He'll begin his course by trying out several different skills before he chooses the one he'll train for through to the end of the second year.

By then he'll have a skill, a certificate to prove it, and a better chance of getting a job.

Our competitors in the Far East and Europe have been training their young people like this for years.

It's made them more efficient and more productive and it's helped them take trade away from us.

But from now on they're going to have to watch out.

Spikey will be spending the next two years learning how to take trade away from them for a change. Along with about 360,000 other ambitious British school leavers.



ENTERTAINMENTS

SOUTH BANK CONCERT HALLS

South Bank Concert Halls, Balhavers Road, London SE1 8DX

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Mozart: Mass in C minor K.427
Haydn: Nelson Mass

Queen Elizabeth Hall

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli

WIGMORE HALL

ESAP-PEKKA SALONEN
Monday Next 17 March at 7.30
MAHLER: SYMPHONY NO.7

St John's Smith Square

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Popular Classics

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Opera Gala Night

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Fairfield Hall Croydon

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Tonight at 8 pm

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Wednesday 26 March at 8 pm

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Good Friday 28 March at 2.30 pm

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Handel: Messiah

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Opera & Ballet

BARBICAN HALL

Barbican Centre, Silk St. EC2Y 8DS

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents
TONIGHT at 7.30 pm
RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Missa Solemnis

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
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ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau

16 March 1986
RECITAL CANCELLED

ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Unfinished Symphony

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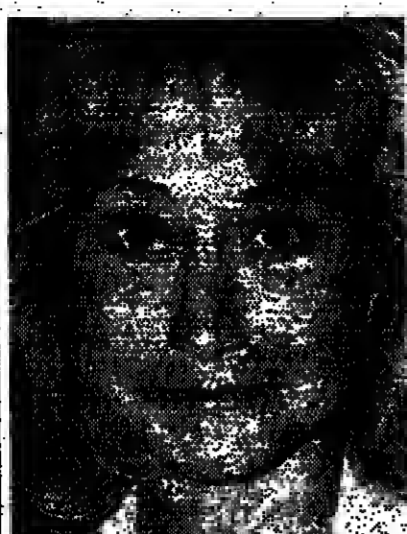
ROYAL PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Unfinished Symphony

THE WEEK AHEAD



BOOKS

UNDERCOVER: John Le Carré returns to the bleak and ambiguous world of espionage for A Perfect Spy...



THEATRE

GOING EAST: Felicity Kendal stars in Made in Bangkok, a first West End play...



FILMS

NIGHTMARE: Mikhail Baryshnikov plays a Soviet defector whose plane crash-lands in Siberia...



GALLERIES

ART CLASS: Sir Alfred Gilbert shows his metal, as well as his plaster and marble...



OPERA

HOLY GRAIL: Sir Reginald Goodall, the veteran Wagner specialist, conducts his first Parsifal...



MUSICALS

BLACK POWER: La Verne Williams, the American soprano, sings the title role in Carmen Jones...

ARTS DIARY

String fever

Anybody who has an original copy of Arthur Sullivan's first, and only, cello concerto should stay well clear of Sir Charles Mackerras until after April 20...

Quiet riot

Standing ovations are clearly not par for the course on the Indian subcontinent, as the award-winning London-based theatre group Cheek By Jowl discovered on their recent two-month tour...

We have had painting by numbers, and now the guitarist Jean Martin is to give us music by painting. On March 24 he is to perform a series of compositions inspired by great paintings before an exclusive audience invited by Patrons of New Art...

Writers' rights

Arts Diary has come to the rescue of the many authors who work for publishers Allison & Busby who, according to the Guild of Writers of Great Britain and the Society of Authors, are failing to live up to their contractual obligations...



Brophy and MacInnes in current A & B writers, like Enid Blyton as well as the estates of deceased luminaries such as Colin (Absolute Beginners) MacInnes, asking of their experiences with the publishing house, prior to it taking legal action. The Society has already tackled the company twice for not paying their dues and the Guild complains to me that letters written in October and November have had no reply from director Clive Allison...

In memoriam

Few would question that Cecil Beaton made an important contribution to 20th-century culture, embracing as he did photography, art, literature and the cinema. Yet when Professor David Mellor of Sussex University tried to put together a major Beaton retrospective five years ago he was laughed off by the Hayward Gallery and the Victoria and Albert Museum...

Distiller of the extraordinary



Driving home from the station along a quiet Devon lane, William Trevor lowers his head in something between a snort and a chuckle, grips the wheel, and involuntarily honks the horn...

William Trevor writes stories that enchant as much as chill. A new volume is out this week.

Fortune became the latest casualty. Pouring a gin and French in his own uncluttered drawing room, Trevor readily endorses the notion of the writer as an eavesdropper...

Cocktails at Doney's, a story from the new collection, is set in a restaurant in Florence. Waiting for his wife, who was attending a course at the British Institute, Trevor had sat listening to a couple at the next table...

There was something totally fascinating and strange about them. I remember his hands on the table playing with a cigarette lighter. I remember they didn't talk. The scene put a stone in his shoe, imagination took over and as he says in his soft lilting voice "the libel began"...

Again, like a conversation snatched at one remove, Trevor can only write about Ireland once he leaves it. The country did not fall into place until I'd been in exile. Things you take for granted you don't actually see when you're living there. Every minute in Florence, for instance, you have to come to terms with something strange. It's a strangeness I still feel in England here...

Such marriages are at the heart of Trevor's corpus. "It is the closest of all relationships because people choose. They dig their own graves. I don't write about happy marriage because I don't think you can analyse happiness. Or goodness. I'd love to write about a good woman but it's easier and more interesting to write about someone dodgy."

He was not always a writer. For five years before the publication in 1964 of his first novel, The Old Boys, he worked in Nutley's advertising agency. "My boss invented the phrase 'top people take The Times', the chap in the next office had a thalidomide account and I had screws, zips, beer barrels, and women's undergarments. I was hopeless," he chuckles...

It is in the terms of his old calling that he describes his fiction. "A short story is like a portrait. You can see round it. You can carry it in your head. It belongs to the impressionists as the novel belongs to the Renaissance, but there should be as much explosion as in a novel. Somerset Maugham said the only story worth telling is one that can be told after dinner on a boat. It's the opposite. You shouldn't be able to repeat it. The beauty is its shadow."

His talent for painting shadown as well as disappearing into it is the real secret of this compelling eavesdropper. He shakes his head with a much of mock-despair. "And I can never switch off. That's why I look so old."

Nicholas Shakespeare

News from Ireland & other stories is published by Bodley Head on Thursday (£9.95).

TIMES CHOICE

THEATRE

IN PREVIEW

MOON ON A RAINBOW SHAWL: Only the second British production for a 1957 award-winning drama of life in post-war Trinidad...

THE NORMAL HEART: Martin Sheen in his English stage debut, in Larry Kramer's play about a New York group formed to fight AIDS...

OPENINGS: AFTER AIDA: Julian Mitchell's play shows Giuseppe Verdi being coaxed back to work to compose Otello and Falstaff...

THE FUTURISTS: Dusty Hughes' new play is set in a basement club in Russia in 1921. Richard Eyre directs Peter Blythe, Charlotte Cornwell, Daniel Day-Lewis, Claire Higgins...

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: Cheek by Jowl Company in idiosyncratic but well-received versions of Shakespeare and Sir George Etherege's Man of Modern in repertory from Mar 24...

CHINA: Young Belfast-born Mark Brennan's play features Eddie O'Connell, Stuart Wilson, Stan Thomas and Natasha Richardson in the title role as an "enigmatic young driver"...

THE APPLE CART: Peter O'Toole and Susannah York star in Val May's spirited revival of Shaw's political comedy. Haymarket (01-930 9832).

A TASTE OF ORTON: A fine double bill comprising a biographical miscellany, Gortilla in the Roses, and the original television play Funeral Games. Queens (01-734 1166).

OUT OF TOWN: BASINGSTOKE: Macbeth: New Horseshoe Theatre Company production, directed by Ian Mullin. Haymarket (0258 465566).

FARNHAM: The See-Saw Tree: World premiere of new play by David Wood, for 7-12-year-olds. Matinees only. Redgrave (0252 715301).

OXFORD: The Killing of Sister George: New Cambridge Theatre Company production of Frank Marcus's play about a character in a long-running radio serial. Playhouse (0865 247133).

GALLERIES

OPENINGS

STUDIES OF THE NUDE: How contemporary artists tackle man's favourite subject: himself in the raw, with works by artists including Auerbach, Bacon, Hockney and Moore. Marlborough Fine Art, 6 Albemarle Street, London W1 (01-629 5161). From Wed.

ISHBEL McWHIRTER: Close friends and public personalities such as A. S. Neil, Oskar Kokoschka and...

For ticket availability, performance and opening times, telephone the numbers listed. Theatre: Tony Patrick and Martin Cropper; Galleries: Sarah Jane Checkland; Photography: Michael Young; Films: Geoff Brown; Dance: John Percival.

FILMS

OPENINGS

A.K. (15): Chris Marker's fascinating portrait of Kurosawa at work on Ran, capturing great things from actors, technicians and horses. ICA Cinema (01-930 3647). From Fri.

WILL TOPLEY: Shells, fruit and objects trawled intensely observed by this British artist, born in Hong Kong. Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). From Fri.

SELECTION: IMPRESSIONIST DRAWINGS: Fine work by Cézanne, Degas, Monet and friends. Ashmolean Museum, Oxford (0865 57522).

NEW CONTEMPORARIES: Multi-media line-up by the masters of the future, in annual exhibition that picks out the best from our art schools. ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (01-930 3647).

MODERN ART: Educational line-up of all the "isms" collected by the Tate Gallery over the last 40 years, with Expressionism and Minimalism dominant. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-821 1313).

PHOTOGRAPHY

AMERICAN IMAGES: Work by Weegee, Eugene Smith, Robert Frank, Harry Callaghan and a host of others. Side Gallery, 9 Side, Newcastle (0632 322208).

THE ODD BALL: Ray Peters who has concentrated on sport for a number of years, has yet to attract the attention he deserves. The Triangle Gallery, Aston University Arts Centre, Gosta Green, Birmingham (021 3533379).

STARS OF THE BRITISH SCREEN: A celebration of the British cinema; huge helpings of nostalgia but thoroughly enjoyable. Royal Photographic Society, Milson Street, Bath (0225 62841).

With Clu Gulager and Miguel Nunez (above). Prince Charles (10-437 8181); Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). From Fri.

SELECTED

RAN (15): Kurosawa's majestic variation on King Lear, awash with hypnotic battles and bleak landscapes. Curzon West End (01-439 4805). Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366). Gate Notting Hill (01-221 0220).

ECHO PARK (15): Witty, low-budget comedy about three hapless people dreaming of the big time in a Los Angeles tenement; directed by Robert Dorfheim. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148).

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Mobil Touring Theatre advertisement for 'The Philanthropist' featuring Janet Ambury, Hugh Fraser, John Hannah, Nicholas Jones, Tony Matthews, Sarah Neville, Sophie Thursfield, and Christopher Hampton's Comedy. Directed by Kevin Billington.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

STOCK MARKET FT 30 Share 1380.7 (+10.1) FT-SE 100 1624.4 (+7.7) USM (Datastream) 218.64 (+0.37) THE POUND US dollar 1.4675 (+0.0065) W German mark 3.3186 (-0.0371) Trade-weighted 74.3 (-0.3)

Stockley in talks

Stockley and Stock Conversion, the property companies, held talks yesterday which could result in a merger.

Board changes at Sainsbury

A director of Sainsbury, the supermarket chain, is resigning in a rare occurrence.

Suter soars

Suter, the engineering and distribution group, made pre-tax profits of £9.54 million in 1985, up from £4.14 million.

IMI support

Martonair, the pneumatic equipment company, is backing an improved £81 million takeover bid from its rival, IMI.

Stake raised

Hillsdown Holdings, the food group, has bought another 2.5 million shares in S & W Bristol, the commodity company, lifting its stake to 0.39 per cent.

Steel up

Steel production in Britain averaged 310,500 tonnes a week in February, 12.4 per cent higher than in January and 3.5 per cent more than in February 1985.

Offer success

Acceptances by Charterhouse Petroleum shareholders for Petrofina's offer have been received for 97.23 per cent of the shares.

Boom warning

The Italian treasury minister, Signor Giovanni Coria, said in Milan that Italian share prices were rising too quickly.

Swiss quotes

Hanson Trust's ordinary shares are to be listed on the Zurich, Basle and Geneva stock exchanges.

Anger as traded options market fails to open

The credibility of the London Traded Options Market suffered a serious setback yesterday when it remained closed all day, making it the third time dealings have been disrupted in the last month.

Working wives 'face tax threat'

The proposed system of transferable allowances for married couples, due to be introduced by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, during next Tuesday's Budget speech, is "severely flawed," according to a report from the Institute for Fiscal Studies published today.

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Argyll loses fight to block Guinness bid

The Argyll supermarket group yesterday failed to block a rival bid by Guinness in the bitter £2,000 million plus tug-of-war for control of the giant Distillers details business.

Rodanco wins control

Rodanco yesterday gained control of Haslemere Estates after it raised its cash offer for the company to 640p a share, valuing it at £190.9 million.

Surprise choice by Reagan for World Bank post

Mr Barber Conable, the surprise choice of the Reagan Administration to head the World Bank, is a moderate Republican with broad political experience who will work closely with the US Treasury in shaping the bank's expanded role.

Yamani to go 'rumour hits oil'

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister who was again at the centre of resignation rumours yesterday, will chair a meeting in Geneva today called to monitor oil output from the 13 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Our fund management plus the best of the rest.

The newly formed Oppenheimer Unit Trust Portfolio Management Service will appeal to those investors with £10,000 or more who seek capital appreciation from a portfolio of unit trusts invested around the world.

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Guinness takes third set: Borrie to serve

Judicial reviews have become the flavour of the month. As Alex Fletcher, a former junior minister at the Department of Trade and Industry and now a highly valued consultant to James Gulliver and the Argyll Group, said on Thursday: "The courts are there to clarify the law and to rule on the actions of government. I find this acceptable, providing the course of the judgment is agreeable to me."

Wearing his Argyll bonnet, and bearing in mind the Court of Appeal's refusal to grant leave to appeal to the House of Lords, Mr Fletcher will regard the review procedure as unacceptable. The court yesterday decided that it would not disturb Mr Justice Macpherson's ruling in the High Court on March 6 that the chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, Sir Godfrey Le Quesne, was correct in accepting Guinness's argument that its first bid for Distillers had been abandoned.

Working wives 'face tax threat'

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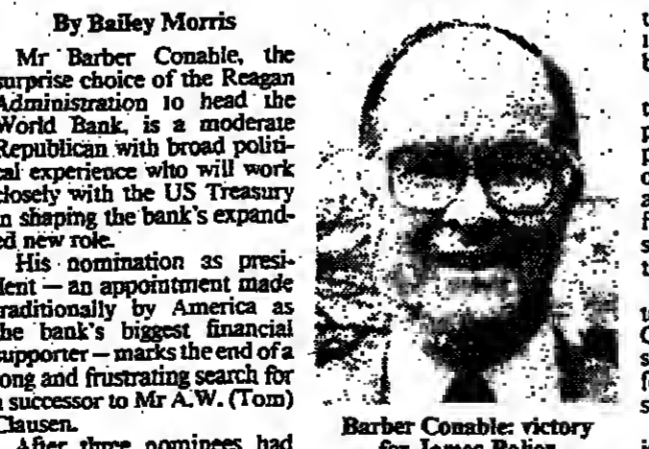
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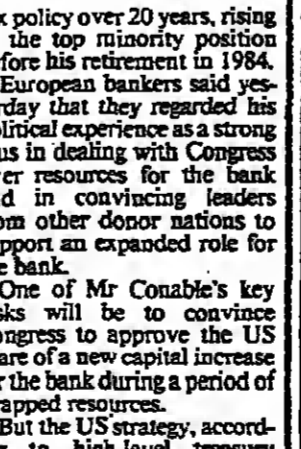
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MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns for STOCK MARKETS, MAIN PRICE CHANGES, GOLD, INTEREST RATES, and CURRENCIES. Includes data for FT 30 Share, FT-SE 100, USM, and various international markets.



Barber Conable victory for James Baker. Mr Barber Conable, the surprise choice of the Reagan Administration to head the World Bank, is a moderate Republican with broad political experience who will work closely with the US Treasury in shaping the bank's expanded role.



Sheikh Yamani: resignation rumour denied. Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister who was again at the centre of resignation rumours yesterday, will chair a meeting in Geneva today called to monitor oil output from the 13 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Oppenheimer advertisement. Large vertical text 'Oppenheimer' on the left. Text on the right: 'Our fund management plus the best of the rest. The newly formed Oppenheimer Unit Trust Portfolio Management Service will appeal to those investors with £10,000 or more who seek capital appreciation from a portfolio of unit trusts invested around the world.'

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THE TIMES Portfolio

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, 1985 High, 1985 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Sections include INDUSTRIALS A-D, Breweries, INDUSTRIALS L-R, INDUSTRIALS S-Z, BUILDING AND ROADS, CHEMICALS, PLASTICS, CINEMAS AND TV, DRAPERY AND STORES, OVER FIFTEEN YEARS, UNDATED, INDEX-LINKED, BANKS DISCOUNT HP, ELECTRICALS.

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Main stock exchange price table with columns: 1985 High, 1985 Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Sections include E-K, FINANCE AND LAND, FOODS, HOTELS AND CATERERS, INDUSTRIALS A-D, L-R, S-Z, INSURANCE, LEISURE, MINING, MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT, NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS, OIL, OVERSEAS TRADERS, PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G, PROPERTY, SHIPPING, SHOES AND LEATHER, TEXTILES, TOBACCOS.

Portfolio - DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000 - WEEKLY DIVIDEND £20,000. Claims required for +39 points for +189 points. Claimsants should ring 0254-53272.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Hectic trading

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 10. Dealings end March 27. Contango day April 1. Settlement day, April 7. \$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

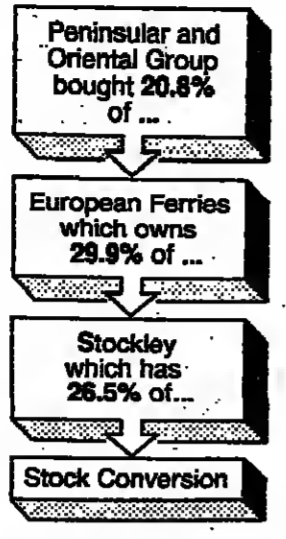
sterling stock

\$ Ex dividend a Ex all b Forwards dividend a Interim payments prepaid f Price as forward dividend and forward splits a Ex-contango b No significant change

STOCK MARKET REPORT

TEMPUS Sterling tipped to make Stock Conversion move

The log jam at Stock Conversion, the old established property company where Stockley, the young and aggressive property company has an unwelcome 26.5 per cent stake, could be cleared by a third party if no agreement is reached between the two.



Both Sir Jeffrey Sterling, the chairman of P & O Group, and Mr Jacob Rothschild, the financial brain behind Stockley, returned to the country yesterday.

This was enough to set City tongues wagging at the prospect of Sir Jeffrey, through his various shareholdings, buying Stockley's stake in Stock Conversion and launching a bid for the company himself.

The route to Stock Conversion lies through European Ferries in which P & O has a 20.8 per cent interest.

Sir Jeffrey denies that he will make an all-out bid for European Ferries but the market takes a different view. It believes that P & O's year-end results, due out on March 27, will give Sir Jeffrey an opportunity to announce a hefty rise in profits which would enable him to use expensive paper to bid for European Ferries, which owns 29.9 per cent of Stockley.

The deal with Stockley involved Euroferries taking shares as payment for Stockley's acquisition of its British property portfolio leaving its US properties intact.

Stockley in turn has 26.5 per cent of Stock Conversion for which it paid 600p per share.

Stock Conversion would dearly like to be rid of Stockley but it has been unwilling to buy it out at a price which shows Stockley a profit over its acquisition price.

But if Sir Jeffrey comes on the scene via European Ferries, Stockley may sell out leaving P & O nicely placed to bid for Stock Conversion which is capitalized at about £285 million.

Sir Jeffrey demurs at being called a property man but the

national, and went on to demonstrate that the 131 per cent increase in pretax profits to £9.54 million could by no means be put down wholly to acquisitions.

The wheeler-dealer image is clearly being shown the door; indeed, the 26 per cent stake in F H Lloyd is now officially up for sale and Mr Abell has temporarily given up as would-be saviour of the British foundry industry.

"Original" Suter businesses achieved an underlying 57 per cent increase in trading profits on turnover up by a quarter but the record of improvement at the acquired companies is just as impressive.

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At the same time, the loss-making ophthalmic lens operation - with its excessive stock levels - must surely benefit from Suter's distribution expertise.

With gross debt down by £4 million to £1 million since the year-end, further acquisitions are likely but at any mention of Unipart, Mr Abell becomes extremely coy.

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The re-rating by the City of both the company and the man is amply illustrated by a 46 per cent outperformance by the shares over the past year.

Mr David Abell's Suter yesterday cheerfully beat its two-week-old forecast, made at the time of the £32 million agreed bid for UKO Interna-

tion, and went on to demonstrate that the 131 per cent increase in pretax profits to £9.54 million could by no means be put down wholly to acquisitions.

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Americans join in the spree

Stock market dealers travelled home exhausted but happy last night after one of the most hectic trading weeks on record.

Volume was so great that the traded options section failed to open, causing confusion and annoyance to those who wanted to close positions before the weekend.

This was particularly crucial for oil traders before Sunday's important Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries meeting.

However, in conventional markets, demand for equities continued apace, taking share prices to new peaks. Just as the pace was beginning to flag American investors came in to give prices an extra shove, particularly among pharmaceutical.

Hesitancy before the Budget proved non-existent but the buying was more selective than of late.

The Ft-30 share index closed at a record 1360.7, up 10.1 points, and the more broadly based FT-SE 100 index closed at 1624.4, up 7.7.

Government securities shook off Thursday's bout of uncertainty and closed half a point higher, underpinned by a

£1 million partly paid convertible tap.

The best performing sectors apart from drug companies were textiles, engineers and banks. The latter were particularly strong after upgrades by leading brokers.

National Westminster led the field at 817p, up 33p, a 75p gain in two days. Lloyds improved 23p to 587p.

Oils were drab not only because of the Opec meeting but also because of capital spending cuts planned by Exxon and Chevron. BP at 545p lost 15p, and Shell gave back 17p to 741p despite Thursday's satisfactory results.

In stores, Woolworth climbed 32p to 611p when takeover rumours failed to

die. Trust House Forte were another to attract speculative interest, 7p higher at 191p on persistent talk of an offer from American Express.

Tobaccos benefited from the trend on Wall Street after a Philip Morris executive spoke of a victory in the industry's produce battles. Imperial Group were marked up 7p to 331p as Hanson Trust (4p better at 181p) increased its stake to 8.65 per cent. Fisons jumped 18p to 529p after further comment on recent results. Aotai-aids drug development hopes prompted demand for Wellcome Foundation at 219p, up 13p to a record. Glaxo were wanted at 1037p, up 32p, and ICI closed 2p above £10.

The tin traders S & W Berisford rallied 4p to 202p as Hilldown Holdings (down 7p to 243p) lifted its stake to more than 10 per cent. Dalgely at 260p recouped 5p.

Comment on American expansion plans boosted Unilever 40p to 1570p. Turner and Newall added 4p to 189p ahead of Thursday's results.

Expamet, also reporting next week, improved 6p to 158p. Martonair jumped 10p to 640p in response to an increased and final offer from L.M.L. also 10p up at 181p.

Good results on Thursday stimulated Bridport Gundry at 192p, up 8p. Simon Engineering, reporting soon, climbed 12p to 238p. A.E. reflected satisfaction with a lucrative contract from Cadillac and rose 9p to 187p. Kenning

Motor shed 3p to 170p on disappointment with the lower-than-expected terms from Tozer Kemsley & Millbourn Holdings, 1p lower at 97p.

TV shares held firm ahead of next week's dividends. William Collins A, which reported a near 12 per cent profits increase on Thursday, were marked up 25p to 348p, taking its fellow publisher, Octopus, up 25p to 600p in sympathy.

Textiles had Vantona at 500p up 14p still benefiting from the merger with Coats Patons. The takeover favourite W.Canning were 10p dearer at 126p. Its figures are due this month.

Rank Organisation lost 11p to 521p awaiting next week's appeal result on the Granada/IBA saga. Gold Greenlees Trott made a bright debut at 188p against the offer price of 165p. British Telecom slipped 2p to 216p on further response to Thursday's slightly disappointing profits.

In properties, Stock Conversion rose 20p to 580p awaiting takeover developments. Moonlight, at 700p, and Rose Haugh, 545p, were others to find favour around 40p higher.

RECENT ISSUES

Table with columns for EQUITIES and RECENT ISSUES, listing various stocks and their prices.

World Bank looks for policy changes

By Michael Prest, Financial Correspondent

More World Bank lending three-year investment will be related to policy grammes, realistic assumptions by the borrowing nations about recurrent revenues countries. Mr A. W. (Tom) and expenditure, and an ap- Clausen, the bank's president, propi-riate balance between said yesterday. But he stressed maintain-ance and new that policy changes by indus-trial nations were also a But he gave a condition of stable growth warn- ing: "While a measure of among developing countries, economic growth can result In a speech delivered at the purely from internal adjust- ment, sustained and larger London. Mr Clausen de- economic growth depends on scribed Bank policy as resting the measure of adjustment on two pillars: "assisting our undertaken in Organization borrowers in formulating sat- isfactory programmes of ad- operation and Development justment and more rapid growth, and helping to mobi- lize the external resources al institutions."

Mr Clausen highlighted pro- tectionism among developed countries and "virtually replaced in the middle of development assistance and declining commercial bank in the formulation of more outflow of funds from devel- oping countries as problems need to be based on realistic

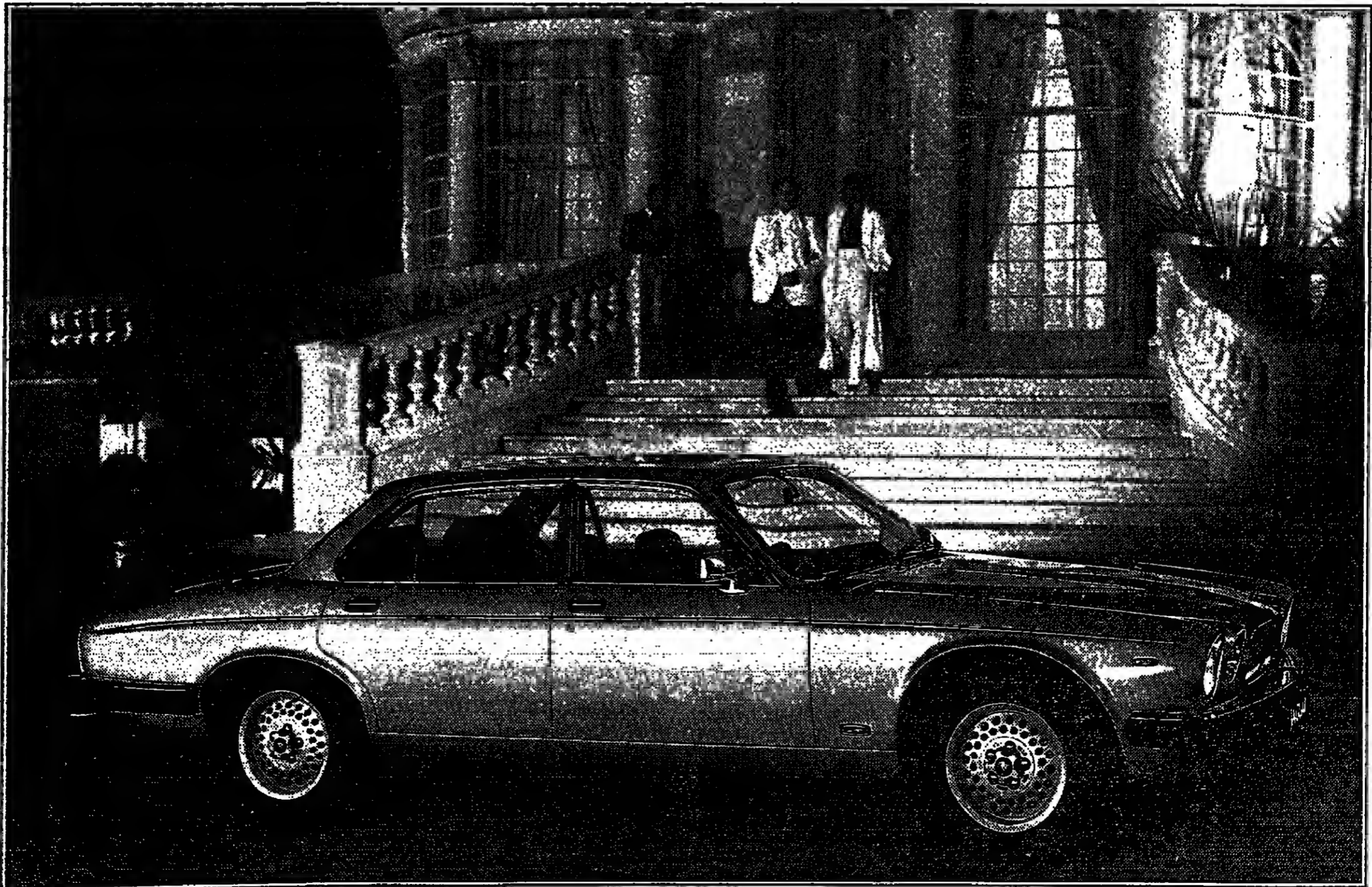
APPOINTMENTS

Heatrae Sadia: Mr Andrew Browne has joined the board. Unioo Bank of Switzerland: Mr Bruno Meier is to be chief executive. London branch. Smith Brothers (Whitehaven): Mr Chris Burland has become market- ing director, Mr Alan Sewell financial director and Mr Frank Todhamster a director. Jeffersoo Smurfit Group: Mr Tony Smith has been named divisional managing director, paper and board division. Thomas Borthwick: Mr John Thomson has been ap- pointed a non-executive di- rector. STC: Lord Rawlinson of Ewell has joined the board. Dewey Warren Holdings: Mr Charles Norton-Smith has been made managing director of the group and of the company. Dewey Warren & Compa- ny: Mr Simon T Morrison has become chairman, Mr Ian R Crightoo and Mr Anthony Pointing have been made joint managing directors and Mr John W J Spencer a director. Mr Alfred T Day and Mr Paul

BASE LENDING RATES

Table listing various banks and their base lending rates, such as ABN, Adern & Company, BCCI, Citibank Savings, etc.

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Sovereign driver, the quality of the treadplates is of importance.) And when you consider that a new Sovereign provides all this at a cost measurably less than that demanded for 'comparable' motor cars, you'll agree that the decision to choose a Jaguar is in itself a laudable feat. After all, a Sovereign has always been a sound investment. THE JAGUAR COMPANY LTD, BLENHEIM PALACE, OXFORD, OX2 0DA. TEL: 0185 206000. FAX: 0185 206001. CREDIT FINANCING AVAILABLE THROUGH ALL JAGUAR DEALERS. DELIVERY, SERVICE AND REPAIRS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

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COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE, LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, and LONDON FUTURE EXCHANGE. Lists various metals and commodities with their respective prices and changes.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of foreign exchange rates for various currencies including Sterling, Dollar, and Euro. Includes sub-sections for Sterling Spot and Forward Rates, Dollar Spot Rates, and Euro Money Deposits.

WALL STREET

Wall Street (Reuters) - Wall Street stocks rose higher at mid-session on Thursday, with blue chips advancing on the strength of a few consumer-related issues, traders said. Later the stocks extended their rally into high territory, with tobacco shares providing some real sparks. The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 8.26 at 1,753.71.

Table of stock market data for Wall Street, showing various indices and individual stock prices with their respective changes.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table of money market and gold prices, including Euro Money Deposits, Gold prices, and other financial instruments.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table of other sterling rates for various international locations and currencies.

The prices and unit rates quotations on this page relate to Thursday's trading

CANADIAN PRICES

Table of Canadian prices for various commodities and goods, including oil, metals, and agricultural products.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures prices, including interest rate futures and other financial derivatives.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts, listing various funds and their performance metrics.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of financial trusts, providing details on various investment vehicles and their assets.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Large table of unit trust information, listing numerous investment funds, their managers, and performance data. Includes sub-sections for various types of unit trusts.

Air chief warns of new crisis

By Michael Bailey
Transport Editor

World airlines could be heading for another financial crisis after only two years in profit, Mr Norman Geary, head of the successful Air New Zealand group, said yesterday. After a \$500 million (\$341 million) surplus last year, International Air Transport Association airlines look like making only \$100 million the price of one Boeing 747 - this year, Mr Geary told the Royal Aeronautical Society in London. And a number of serious problems are hanging over the industry from next year. Mr Geary gave a warning that more airlines were facing failure soon.

Bookings rise 10% for holidays in England

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

More Britons are planning holidays in England this year according to a survey from the English Tourist Board. Bookings at some resorts are reported to be up by 10 per cent or more compared with this time last year. With the ending of the February cold snap most English resorts say they expect bookings to pick up and put business at least on a par with last year which, despite rainy periods, is claimed to have been "exceptionally good" for domestic tourism, according to the ETB. Domestic spending in tourism was up between 6 and 7 per cent last year with an increase especially in the latter part of the year.

Ladbroke Holidays reported bookings up 12 per cent, while at Wallace Arnold they were up 10 per cent, the survey showed. Blakes, which specializes in self-catering holidays, reported "excellent" pre-Christmas bookings. A number of resorts reported a bigger demand for brochures, among them Scarborough, Southport (10 per cent up), Brighton, Hastings and Blackpool. The survey results were announced at an awards ceremony for Bridlington and Torbay, winners of an ETB competition for the best ideas to develop resorts.

The competition had prompted fresh ideas in the £2,000 million-a-year resort industry, said Mr David Trippier, minister for tourism at the Department of Employment. Mr Duncan Black, the ETB chairman, said English resorts were in competition with overseas destinations offering purpose-built accommodation and guaranteed sunshine. He added: "Improvements in resorts will only come about through local will and enthusiasm. Resorts must invest in new facilities and break into growth markets such as visitors from overseas, short holidays and business tourism."

COMPANY NEWS

GENERAL MINING UNION CORPORATION: A final dividend of 140 cents is being paid on April 17, making a total of 195 cents a share (190 cents) for 1985. Turnover R5,069 million (£1,748 million), against R4,414.9 million. Pretax income R485.2 million (£167 million), compared with R412.3 million. The board expects that 1986's earnings will at least equal 1985.

CLIFTON PACIFIC: Terms have been announced to include option holders outside North America in the recent rights issue. Option holders will be able to acquire one partly-paid A\$2 share for every four options held at 5 cents a share. The options are due to expire in June and, by law, cannot be extended or altered.

The board of Ace Belmont International has reported that the preparation of audited accounts for the year to August 31 was delayed pending the resolution of the accounts treatment of changes to the company's management structure. The board expects that audited consolidated accounts will be available during May.

ADELAIDE STEAMSHIP: Interim dividend 16 cents (14). Half-time net profit Aus\$55.68 million (about £27 million), against Aus\$26.97 million. Turnover Aus\$177.87 million (Aus\$120.61 million). One-for-four scrip issue proposed.

HENRY ANSBECHER HOLDINGS: No dividend; as forecast. Nine months to Dec. 31, 1985, compared with the previous 12 months. Pretax profit £2.74 million (loss, £13.09 million). Disclosed earnings per share 1.9p (loss, 42.1p).

VITATRON: Medtronic's cash offer is now unconditional. It has been accepted for 84.9 per cent of the issued capital and 58.7 per cent of the fully-diluted capital.

PARK HALL LEISURE: Granada Group now owns or has received acceptances for 8.93 million ordinary shares (99.2 per cent) and intends to acquire compulsorily the remainder.

BUSINESS COMPUTER SYSTEMS: Electronic Data Processing's offer has been accepted for 5.96 million ordinary shares (94.8 per cent), has been declared unconditional and will remain open until further notice.

CAMELLIA INVESTMENTS: Final dividend 7p, making 12p (10p) for 1985. Net turnover £1.95 million (£1.75 million). Profit before tax £894,471 (£508,666). Earnings per share before extraordinary items, 25.33p (18.58p) and after, 69.73p (15.76p).

WFP: Further undertakings to accept Promotions House's offer have been received from significant institutional shareholders. The number of shares irrevocably committed to accept has now more than doubled, from 3.6 million to 7.41 million (about 29 per cent).

FREDERICK COOPER: The company has completed the disposal of the principal assets of its offshoot, Cooper Horsehoe Nail, for £1.5 million. The purchaser has also acquired, at valuation, the finished stock of horsehoe nails held by CHN's US distributor, CHN Inc.

DUNTON GROUP: Interim dividend 0.16p (nil). Turnover for the six months to Nov. 30, 1985, £1.28 million (£539,613). Pretax profit £172,130 (£71,449). Earnings per share 1.05p (0.52p).

ESSELTE: Results for 1985. Dividend 13.5 Swedish krona (12 krona). Sales 10,222 million krona (about £960 million), against 8,713 million krona. Income before appropriations and tax, 694 million krona (620 million krona).

SINTROM: Dividend for 1985 2.2p (nil). Turnover £14.82 million (£10.08 million). Pretax profit £1.25 million (£953,000). Earnings per share 8.9p (7.0p).

GOODMAN BROTHERS: Turnover for the half-year to Oct. 31, 1985, £5.22 million (£6.03 million). Loss on ordinary activities £153,000 (profit, £25,000). No tax (same). Extraordinary debit, £227,000 (nil). Loss per share 1.5p (earnings 0.25p).

BRITISH ASSETS TRUST: A first quarterly dividend of 0.475p (0.425p) is being paid on May 6. This indicates a rate for the year to Sept. 30 next of 1.9p a share (1.775p, adjusted).

BBA GROUP: The final dividend is 1.16p (0.9p), making 2p (1.74p) for 1985, payable on July 7. With figures in £000, comparison adjusted sales were 229,513 (176,110), gross profit was 63,547 (47,341), trading profit was 13,477 (6,402), after distribution costs were 31,303 (25,571) and administration expenses were 18,767 (15,368).

JAMES CREAM: The business of the subsidiary, Tennant & Ruttle, has doubled. Parkdale Holdings is to sell the freehold interest in 19 Wellington Street, Leeds, to the city council for £842,400 cash. This property was acquired in July, 1983, for £200,000. It was refurbished and is included in Parkdale's balance sheet for the year ending April 30, 1985, at £775,000. About £487,000 has been spent on it.

bled in volume terms during the last five years and is expected to show further substantial growth in the foreseeable future.

PHILLIPS ELECTRONICS: The company, subject to contract plans to sell its Lightcote factory to the management consortium, headed by Mr David Rose and Mr Derek Clee.

DEREK CROUCH: Mr Derek Crouch, in his annual review, says it is expected that the improved results from American operations with the gradual emergence of the construction development division will continue to supplement core British mining activities.

BRIDPORT-GUNDRY: The results for the six months to January 31 are

as follows, with the interim dividend at 1.65p (1.45p). The figures are in £000. Turnover was 16,964 (13,920), profit before tax was 924 (646) tax - British and overseas was 336 (246), minority interests, debt was 22 (30).

TYNE TEES TELEVISION HOLDINGS: The figures are for the 15 months December 31. The final dividend was 10.125p (9.75p), making 13.125p after taking into account the extended period (10.5p). The figures are in £000: Turnover was 60,529 (46,010), pretax profit was 3,185 (2,604).

DARIEN OIL TRUST: The results for the year to December 31 are as follows with the dividend at 625p (0.325p). The figures are in £000 investment income was 194 (272) and interest receivable was 79 (28).

COSTAIN GROUP: Two subsidiaries, Land and Marine Engineering and Safe Offshore of Gothenburg, are each taking a 50 per cent share in a new company, Safe Offshore.

PLASTIC CONSTRUCTION: The chairman's statement with the annual report says that the company was experiencing good demand for all services. This trend continues subject only to the usual pre-Budget uncertainties.

BOLTON TEXTILE MILL: With figures to £000, group turnover was 5,100 (7,400) for the half year ended October 31, 1985. Net profit before tax was 8 (98).

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- France 20%**
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- Switzerland 4%**
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- Italy 7%**
The Italian stock market, although modest in size, is growing following strong demand from Italian mutual funds set up in 1983.
- Netherlands 5%**
Low inflation and increases in domestic consumption and exports should boost share prices.
- Other European Markets 8%**
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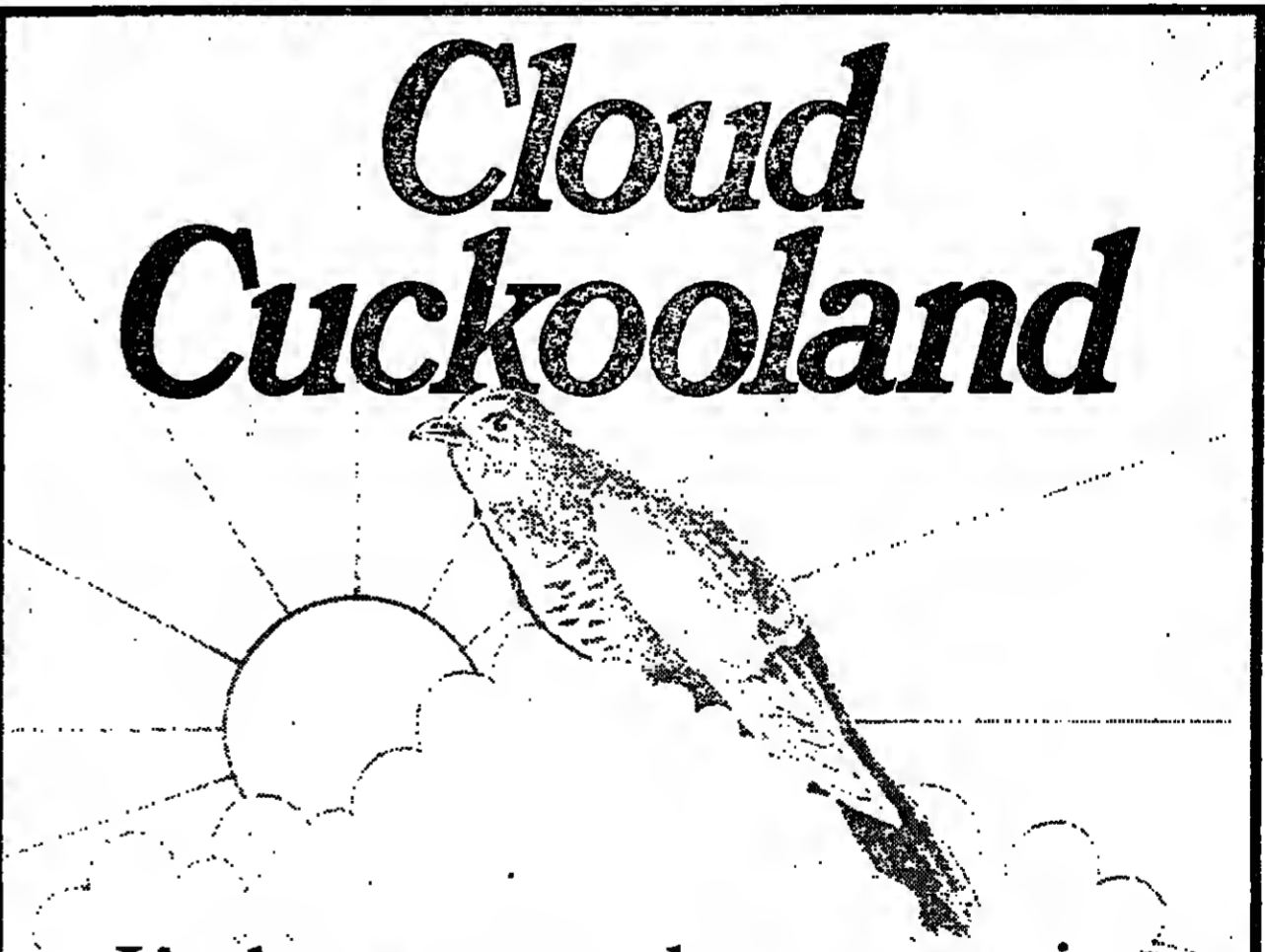
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Why the investors are still smiling



UNIT TRUSTS

Shares on the London Stock Exchange soared to record levels this week, with the market now showing a phenomenal 23 per cent rise during the past four months. Nearly £10,000 million was added to share values in trading on Tuesday and Wednesday alone.

Can it last and what does it mean for unit trust investors? "I have thought on three occasions that the market was reaching a peak and each time I was wrong," says Martyn Page, of Oppenheimer Fund Management. "One must be very careful, as there is a large speculative element in the market. We are avoiding the speculative areas, in other words the takeover situations, the retailers on fancy multiples and the stocks trading on rumours. I am tempted to be wrong a fourth time and say that the market has peaked."

John Alexander, of TR Unit Trust Management, is more optimistic about the stock market. He does not usually think in terms of markets, however, rather taking a view more on individual stocks. "We are not on the edge of a cliff at the moment. Share certificates are still very much worth having and will continue to be profitable for investors over the next few years," he says. "There is still some good value amongst smaller to medium-sized stocks."

He thinks we are in the midst of "a huge re-rating of the market", occurring primarily as a result of two factors. "We are in a disinflationary environment, hence company earnings and dividends are worth more, and people are prepared to rate them higher," he says. "Moreover, the markets are becoming completely international, with the large overseas institutions coming in. Merrill Lynch has just put out a 'buy' circular on British banks. There are hardly any UK institutions holding Jaguar shares - the Americans have them. To many overseas players our ratings seem very low."

Exchange has not been in any way responsible for the current boom in UK equities. Rather, they see the rise as symptomatic of rising equity markets generally, with the surge on Wall Street leading the way. "We have not been a factor in the market as yet," says Dick Hill, of Merrill Lynch. "At the moment we are still bedding down and learning the systems."

Kenneth Levy, of Vanguard Trust Managers, thinks the market is now at a level where it should consolidate.

He says: "It has fully taken into account the worldwide fall in interest rates plus a little more, and taken on board the oil price fall. It will not plummet. There will not be a major retraction but it might fall by, say, 5 per cent."

33,000 bargains struck in a day

more, and taken on board the oil price fall. It will not plummet. There will not be a major retraction but it might fall by, say, 5 per cent. "But it could be by the same token rise by another 10 per cent - it's just that the fundamentals do not warrant a rise in the next few months of the same size as the one which we have just had."

He thinks the incursion of Nomura Securities and Merrill Lynch is merely symptomatic of a worldwide channelling of money into financial assets.

Something else which is worth looking out for is the popularity of the traded options market and the increasing use made of this market by

fund managers. On Wednesday about 33,000 bargains were struck in the traded options market, an all-time record for a single day's trading.

More and more fund managers are finding out that they have to use the opportunities offered by traded options to keep their performance up with those who already take advantage of them," says John Karlskale, of brokers Sheppards and Chagel.

To a certain extent there is still a learning process for unit trust managers and trustees to go through before they recognize the value of traded options, and there are certain things - such as selling put options - which unit trusts are not allowed to do.

Nevertheless, some groups, notably Save & Prosper, are already using traded options as part of their overall investment strategy in their unit trusts. Nigel Foster, of Save & Prosper, says 26 of the 30 unit trusts run by the group have used traded options.

He says the performance of the Save & Prosper Scottish unit trusts - up 32.5 per cent, offer to offer, over the year to March 1 - has in particular been boosted by use of traded options.

Lawrence Lever

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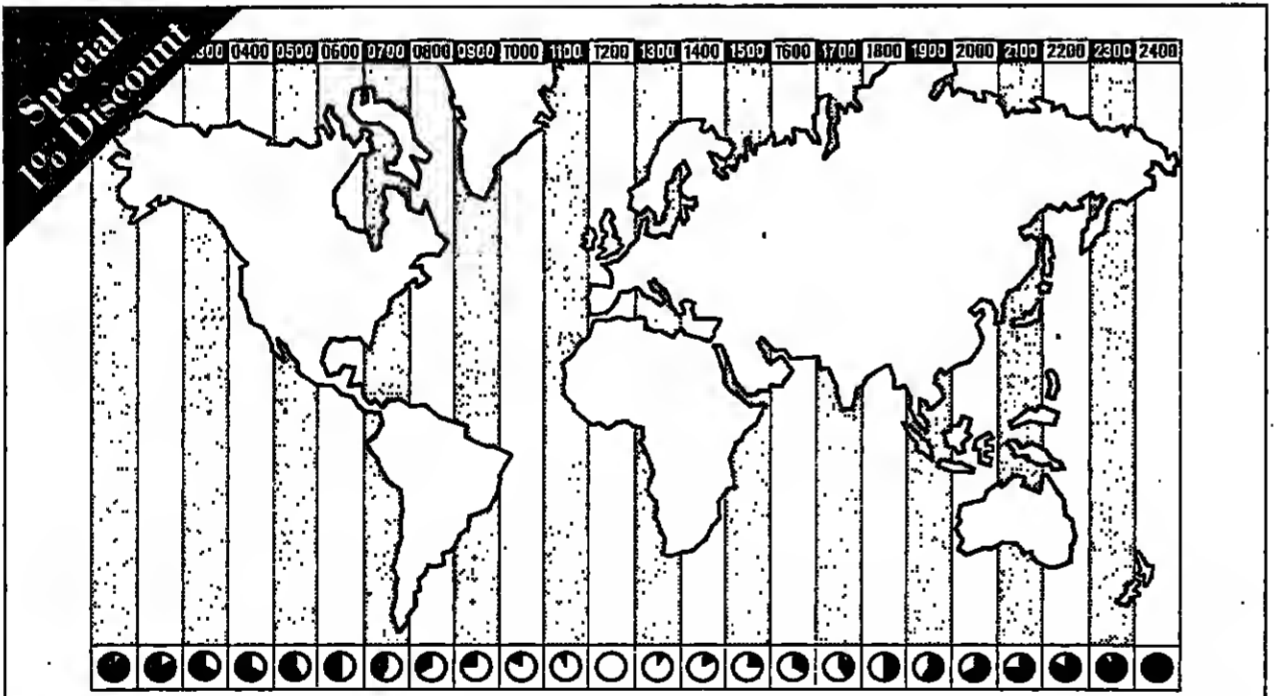
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Investing in the world's stockmarkets is undoubtedly one of the best ways of making your savings grow. Over the last five years the UK stock market has risen 153%, and the American and German markets by 162% and 132% respectively. Compare this with a Building Society share account return of just 4.7% over the same period and you can see why more investors are putting their money into stockmarkets around the world.

The problem for most people, whether they are first-time investors or not, is that choosing the most promising stocks demands a high degree of specialist knowledge and a great deal of time.

Fidelity Managed International Trust offers you a way round this problem. The Trust aims to provide maximum capital growth through an actively managed portfolio of stocks selected from the world's stock markets.

Fidelity's managers can swiftly move funds from market to market in order to ensure both the best possible return, and the minimum investment risk.

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Of course, to manage an international fund successfully requires considerable skills. The Trust draws upon Fidelity's strengths as one of the largest investment management groups in the world, with investment offices in all the world's major financial centres. We are therefore in a position to know which stockmarkets offer the most potential - and to make sure your money is there, working for you.

The performance of Managed International Trust highlights the success of our investment philosophy. Over the past one, two and three years, the Trust is ranked 4th, 2nd and 11th in its sector. (Source: Plannet Savings, March 1986.) Since launch in October 1982 the Trust's offer price has risen by 163% (at 12th March 1986).

SPECIAL DISCOUNT - INVEST NOW
Don't miss out any longer on the superior growth opportunities of stockmarket investment. The minimum investment for Managed International Trust is only £500.

To give your investment a head start, Fidelity is currently offering a special 1% discount on all investments in Managed International Trust - but you must reply now to qualify. So return your completed coupon today. Alternatively, phone Fidelity's investment advisers on Callfree 0800 414161, between 10.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. on Saturdays or between 9.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

You should bear in mind that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

FIDELITY MANAGED INTERNATIONAL TRUST

GENERAL INFORMATION: A constant offer for your application together with a brochure will be sent immediately. Unit certificates will be sent within 15 days. The current estimated gross yield is 13.3% at the offer price of 131.5p and the Fidelity Managed International Trust at 15th March 1986. The distribution date is 15th April 1986, and March.

An initial charge of 2% (representing 1.2% of the offer price) is included in the price of units and will be paid to the Managers. The Trust pays an annual charge to the Managers of 0.5% of the value of the Fund. The annual charge is normally 1% plus 1.5% but the Managers have the right to change this within the above range subject to giving not less than 1 month's notice to shareholders. Units may be held on an annuity or the buy-back plan. A charge will be deducted within 7 days of receipt of your redemption certificate.

Please refer to the Financial Times, Chartered Bank and Plannet 8479s, Managers, Fidelity International Management Limited, Registered Office: New York, Redbridge Lane 1701 118, The Trust is a wholly owned subsidiary of the F.I.T. Member of the Unit Trust Association. Offers are open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

Mr. FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT LIMITED
201, B13, RD, REDBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX HA1 1JN
TELEPHONE: 0800 414161

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Surname: MR MRS MISS _____
First name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____

I wish to invest £ _____

I am investing in the Fidelity Managed International Trust at the offer price of 131.5p and in respect of an application for units of £ _____ (representing _____ units) to be made available to me by Fidelity International Management Limited.

Minimum investment is £500

Fidelity INTERNATIONAL

Loan	Before tax relief		3 Years		5 Years		10 Years	
	Monthly	Total	Monthly	Total	Monthly	Total	Monthly	Total
£1,000	37	1,332	26	1,550	19	2,280	13	3,960
3,000	110	3,960	78	4,590	58	6,720	36	12,240
5,000	184	6,624	130	7,830	94	11,340	57	19,620
7,500	278	9,990	195	11,700	131	16,290	84	24,840
10,000	368	13,248	261	15,690	178	22,530	111	31,710

APR 20.9% Variable 1.6% per month

CHARTERLOAN APPLICATION FORM

Amount of Loan required: £ _____ Repayment Term: _____ years Property: F (Freehold) / H (Leasehold) / E (Estimated value) £ _____

Surname: _____ Tel No: _____ Date purchased: _____ Price paid: £ _____

Forename(s): _____ Date of Birth: _____ Monthly income: gross self £ _____ Spouse £ _____

Spouse's Forename(s): _____ Date of Birth: _____ Monthly Commitments: _____ Spouse £ _____

Married/Single/Widowed/Separated/Divorced (Delete as appropriate)

Present address: _____ Post Code: _____ Name of Lender: _____ Monthly Payment: _____ Amount over: _____

Time at this address: _____ years _____ months 1st Mortgage: £ _____ £ _____

Previous address (if at present address less than 3 years): _____ 2nd Mortgage: £ _____ £ _____

Exact Occupation: _____ Post Code: _____ HP-Bank: £ _____ £ _____

Employer's Name: _____ Address: _____ Loans: £ _____ £ _____

Time with this employer: _____ years _____ months Other Credit: £ _____ £ _____

Spouse's Exact Occupation: _____ Purpose for which loan is required: _____

If you require the protection of the Gold Scheme loan, please tick here: N.B. Life insurance free up to state retirement age.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Send this completed form to: Chartered Trust plc, 24/26 Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1SR. Secured Charterloans are available only in England, Wales and Scotland. Registered number 922134. 24/26 Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1SR. (N4/120) 1982/22

FAMILY MONEY/2

Leaders in a slow field

There is only one word for the standard of entries in the Times-Hill Samuel Young Financial Writer of the Year Award - disappointing.

Having had our grouse, we offer our congratulations to the three winners - 16-year-old Emma Cochrane, law student David Sinclair and medical student Nick Fox.

It was difficult to decide between Emma's piece and David's essay - both had chosen the subject "Your aunt has left you £10,000 - how would you invest it?"

left you £10,000 - how would you invest it?"

We finally decided to give Emma the first prize because she had shown originality and had approached the subject in a workmanlike, journalistic fashion.

In terms of style, David probably had the edge on Emma and he writes knowledgeably and readably about what is clearly his passion - old cars.

Prize-winners will receive their cheques for £2,500, £500 and £250 donated by Hill Samuel Investment Services at a lunch held in the Cafe Royal, London, on Monday.

"Is a house a good investment?" drew the largest number of entrants and was the subject chosen by Nick Fox, our third prize-winner.

Despite its innocuous appearance it is eagerly read on Thursday morning by a handful of investors up and down the country.

Some of these investors will be professional stockbrokers, heads of industry and other leading financial experts. Between them they may control, literally, millions of pounds.

How the banks helped me to invest

THE WINNER

As an investor with £10,000 I decided to get advice from Midland, Barclays, Lloyds and National Westminster Bank.

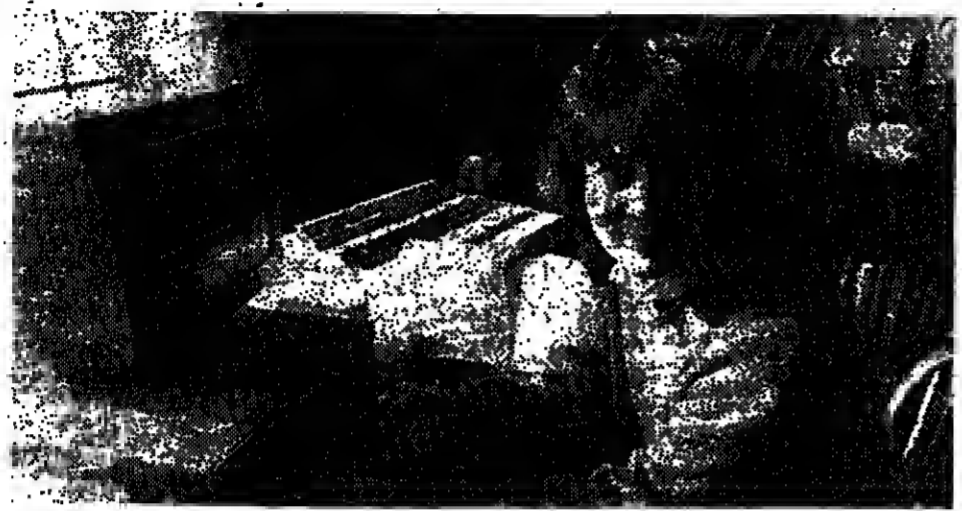
The story I told was that my father's sister had died leaving three of us her house in the North which was on sale for £36,500, and that I thought it would get £35,000, which would be split between us.

I was quite nervous about talking to the bankers, worrying that they'd have read about the competition and guess what I was doing. Perhaps they wouldn't take me seriously because of my age and sex! Almost all the people I talked to were male.

The story grew more elaborate at each interview. At Midland Bank I got into a terrible muddle about the will's terms. I hadn't realized that being a minor might mean I could not have control of the money until I was 18 or even 21.

Barclays also gave me an appointment for the following day. Their investment officer was the most interesting to talk to, and I had Midlands and Lloyds advice with which to compare his ideas.

Midland gave me an interview immediately. They suggested I put half in a building



I will invest the money in something, but I'm not sure what, says Emma Cochrane, the schoolgirl who won the £2,500 first prize in our competition

society and half into a unit trust. Lloyds took down details about the money and myself and promised to telephone me when they had drawn up a plan for an investment scheme.

As I didn't pay tax they suggested I split the money three ways between the Post Office Invac Account, the Lloyds Trust Gift Fund and another Lloyds Unit Trust.

Barclays also gave me an appointment for the following day. Their investment officer was the most interesting to talk to, and I had Midlands and Lloyds advice with which to compare his ideas.

Midland gave me an interview immediately. They suggested I put half in a building

ings Certificates, £2,500 in the Post Office Invac Account as a cash reserve, £1,000 into a UK Growth Trust and £1,500 into a European Unit Trust.

I mentioned that Lloyds had just set up a German Growth Trust and he said Barclays had launched a similar one and other banks would probably follow suit.

Something I hadn't realized was that each trust is usually headed by one man or a group of men. Therefore the trust can only be as good as the brains behind it.

It was a difficult decision, but after ruling out accounts taxed at source I decided that £2,500 would be put in National Savings Certificates

which would then be "safe" for five years. I would have £1,000 as a cash reserve in the Invac account, with £3,000 in the Lloyds trust Gold fund and £1,500 in Lloyds Smaller Companies and Recovery Unit Trust.

This is more risky as it works on the principle of buying shares at a low price and hoping that the share price will rise. I chose Lloyds as it had shown a growth rate well above average for varying periods of years.

Emma Cochrane

Will you turn £500 of penny shares into £1,000 in just six weeks?



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As we've already explained, we believe it is still regularly possible to double your money in as little as six weeks by trading in penny shares.

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30th June 1986, all you need to do is complete and return the coupon below. If you win, you'll receive £500 to spend or invest as you please.

That's right, we're so confident that our advice is sound we believe that £500 will be worth £1,000 in just six weeks!

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We calculate the interest on your account day by day. So your whole investment automatically earns the best rate according to the amount you have invested.

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You can also have the added convenience of running your account from the comfort of your own home or office, post free, with our Gold By Post service. All of which makes Cheltenham Gold an automatic choice. Invest in Cheltenham Gold today.

Form for Cheltenham Gold account application, including fields for name, address, and investment amount.

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CHIEF OFFICE: CHELTENHAM HOUSE, CLARENCE STREET, CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, GL50 3JR. TEL: 0242 36161. Member of the Building Societies Association and Investors' Protection Scheme. Assets exceed £3,000 million. Branches throughout the UK. See Yellow Pages.

When oil prices fall, guess what rises?

Oil prices have dropped dramatically from \$31 a barrel at the beginning of December to currently under \$15. And the economy that stands to gain more than most from this is that of Japan. In fact, it is estimated that cheaper oil alone could add 1% to Japan's GNP during 1986.

JAPAN: THE TRIPLE MERIT MARKET

In addition to falling oil prices, two other blessings have led experts to dub Japan the Triple Merit Market.

One is a rising currency. Recently, the Yen has even strengthened against the mighty Deutschmark and the Swiss Franc, as well as the Pound Sterling.

And secondly, falling interest rates. The official interest rate is down from 5% to just 4%. As for inflation, not only is it below 2% now - but recent forecasts see it falling to nothing, and then carrying on to become 'negative inflation, with prices falling.

The result of all this is a booming Japanese home market, which is now growing faster than Japanese exports and already consumes 85% of all goods manufactured in Japan.

WHERE THE SMART MONEY IS MOVING

Of the 25 top performing unit trusts since 1st January 1986, no fewer than 9 invest in Japan (Source: Planned Savings, 1/3/86). Henderson Japan Special Situations Trust is, of course, one of these; and it is ideally placed to offer above average capital growth.

Today, all the signs are that a new wave of interest is under way and that professionally managed money is moving back into Japan. So now is the time to invest.

IN-DEPTH LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

The Henderson Japan Special Situations Trust, which was launched in January 1983, is already a substantial trust worth nearly £50 million.

The Trust is founded on our in-depth knowledge of the Japanese economy. We use our knowledge to concentrate the Trust's holdings in companies supplying the expanding Japanese home market, as well as in

undervalued asset situations, takeover possibilities and new issues. Henderson has been managing investments internationally for over 50 years. Today we have over £3,500 million under management, of which £450 million is invested in the Far East.

ALREADY A TOP PERFORMER

The Henderson Japan Special Situations Trust is designed for investors who are able to take a long-term view.

Since its launch, the Trust has shown an increase of 135.4%, and has already risen by 16.9% since the beginning of the year (on an offer to bid basis with net income reinvested).

HOW TO INVEST

To invest now in the Henderson Japan Special Situations Trust at the fixed offer price of 128.8p, simply complete the application form below and return it together with your cheque, either direct or through your professional adviser, to arrive not later than Tuesday 25th March 1986.

You should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up, and you should regard any investment as long term.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Should the unit offer price move by more than 2 1/2% during the fixed price period, the offer will be closed and units will be allocated on the price ruling on receipt of application.

An annual charge of 2 1/2% of the net assets of the Trust will be deducted from the gross income to cover administrative costs.

Distributions of income will be paid on 30th November each year. The trust is a limited company with a share capital of £100 million.

Contract notes will be issued and unit certificates will be provided within eight weeks of payment. To all unit holders, your certificate and send it to the managers, payment based on the ruling bid price will normally be made within 7 working days.

The Trust is not subject to capital gains tax, interest or a unit holder will not pay the tax on a disposal of units unless the total realised gains from all sources in the tax year amount to more than £2,000. If the price and yield can be found daily in the Financial Times.

Trustee: Midland Bank Trust Ltd, 10 Old Broad Street, London EC2M 1JQ. Managers: Henderson Unit Trust Management Ltd, 20 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1HA. Registered in England. Registration Number: 020525 England. A member of the Unit Trust Association.

HENDERSON JAPAN SPECIAL SITUATIONS TRUST

To: Henderson Unit Trust Management Ltd, Dealing Department, 5, Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex, CM13 1AA. Telephone: 01-638 5757.

If you would like further information about the Share Exchange Service, please tick [] Mr/Ms/Miss/Title [] Surname [] Forename (if in full) [] Address [] Postcode []

I/We wish to invest £ (minimum £500) in the Henderson Japan Special Situations Trust at the fixed price of 128.8p per unit and enclose a remittance payable to Henderson Unit Trust Management Ltd. If you wish to have net income re-invested please tick []

This offer will close at 5.30pm on Tuesday March 25th 1986. After the close of this offer units will be available at the daily quoted price.

Henderson. The Investment Managers.

Unit Trust choice simplified

EXTRA UNITS UP TO 5% APRIL

With over eight hundred unit trusts available and more being launched each month, how do you know which to choose? In reality there are only three basic types of unit trust, and M&G has an outstandingly successful example of each: Recovery Fund for capital growth, Dividend Fund for income, and SECOND General for a balance between income and growth.

You should remember that new funds or funds which suffer a change of management are likely to be more of a gamble than those which can point to a long and successful record. M&G's investment team has remained largely unchanged for many years, and our long-term performance record reflects this. Past performance cannot be a guarantee for the future, but it is usually the best measure you have of a fund's likelihood of achieving its objective.

We are offering an extra 1% unit allocation if you invest £1,000 or more and 2% if you invest £10,000 or more per Fund.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

Growth RECOVERY FUND

M&G Recovery Fund is probably the most successful unit trust ever launched and the table below shows just how well it has achieved its aim of capital growth. The Fund buys the shares of companies which have fallen on hard times. Losses must be expected when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G RECOVERY	FT ORDINARY INDEX	PETAL PRICE INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY
23 May '69	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
1970	11,760	8,570	11,020	11,058
1975	26,400	11,121	21,283	16,178
1980	102,560	17,287	40,175	25,521
1985	270,800	49,474	55,248	40,168

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on an extra interest account offering 1½% above the average yearly rate (source: Building Societies Association). M&G Recovery figures are all realisation values.

FURTHER INFORMATION On 12th March 1986 offered prices and estimated gross current yields were:

Recovery Fund 342.1p Income 4.38p Yield 3-03%
 Dividend Fund 405.9p 1172.5p 4-91%
 SECOND General 690.6p 1347.4p 3-59%

Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The difference between the "offer" price (at which you buy units) and the "bid" price (at which you sell) is normally 6%. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offered price and an annual charge of up to 1% of each Fund's value - currently ¾% - plus VAT is deducted from gross income. Income for Accumulation units is reinvested to increase their value and for Income units it is distributed net of basic rate tax on the following dates:

	Recovery	Dividend	SECOND
Distributions	20 Feb 20 Aug	15 Jan 15 July 15 Aug	15 Feb 15 Aug
Next distribution for new investors	1986	1986	1986

You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement two to three weeks later. Redemption is payable to accrued points; rates are available on request. The Trustee for Dividend and Recovery is Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited and for SECOND is Udy's Bank Plc. The Funds are all wider-range investments and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

M&G Securities Limited, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ, Tel: 01-626 4588. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

Income DIVIDEND FUND

If you need income which will grow over the years M&G Dividend Fund could be your ideal investment. The Fund invests in a wide range of ordinary shares and aims to provide above average and increasing income and a yield about 50% higher than the FT Actuaries All-Share Index.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY
6 May '64	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
1965	5,396	5,536	10,200	10,000
1970	883	650	10,760	10,000
1975	828	871	16,300	10,000
1980	1,660	1,200	24,280	10,000
1985	2,278	908*	65,160	10,000

NOTES: All income figures shown are net of basic rate tax. The Building Society income figures are 1½% above the average of the rates offered in each year (source: Building Societies Association). M&G Dividend capital figures are all realisation values.* Estimated.

Balanced SECOND GENERAL

M&G SECOND General Trust Fund aims for consistent growth of both capital and income and has a 29-year performance record which is second to none. It has a wide spread of shares mainly in British companies.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G	FT ORDINARY INDEX	PETAL PRICE INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY
5 June '56	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
1960	48,520	20,080	11,293	12,483
1965	31,320	26,230	13,492	16,093
1970	46,480	30,540	17,143	21,636
1975	79,840	39,620	33,107	31,651
1980	195,400	61,600	62,494	49,931
1985	546,000	176,240	85,941	78,588

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on an extra interest account offering 1½% above the average yearly rate (source: Building Societies Association). M&G SECOND General figures are all realisation values.

SPECIAL OFFER CLOSES 5th APRIL

All applications received by 5th April, 1986 will be given an extra 1% allocation of units. This will increase to 2% for applications of £10,000 or more per Fund.

To: M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ. Please invest the sum(s) indicated below in the Fund(s) of my choice (minimum investment in each Fund: £1,000) in ACCUMULATION/INCOME units (delete as applicable) or Accumulation units will be issued for Recovery and SECOND and Income units will be issued for Dividend) at the price ruling on receipt of this application. DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY.

01 FULL NAME(S) (Print/Initials)	
02 SURNAME	
03 ADDRESS	
04 POST CODE	
SIGNATURE	
DATE	
TC481116	

£20 A MONTH CAN ACCUMULATE A LOT OF MONEY

If you had chosen fifteen years ago to save £20 a month in a building society, and had left the interest to accumulate, by 1st January 1986 your total outlay of £3,600 would have built up to £7,192. On the other hand, if you had chosen to save the same amount each month in one of our larger unit trusts, M&G SECOND General Trust Fund, you would have built up an investment worth £16,376, an extra £9,184.

You can start an M&G Unit Trust Savings Plan with as little as £20. You need not subscribe regularly but we strongly recommend that you do so, by completing the Bankers Order form. By saving a regular amount you make fluctuations in the stockmarket work to your advantage because more units are bought when their price is low than when it is high.

Unit Trusts are an excellent method of investing in the various stockmarkets of the world, and are ideal for regular investment over the longer term. They are not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

WHAT YOU COULD HAVE ACCUMULATED FOR £20 A MONTH BY 1st JAN. 1986

Amount paid in	5 YEARS (1st Jan 79)	10 YEARS (1st Jan 79)	15 YEARS (1st Jan 79)
M&G Recovery	2,064	7,989	23,693
M&G Dividend	2,342	7,572	18,036
M&G SECOND	2,024	7,310	16,376
FT Industrial Ordinary Index	2,199	6,380	12,754
Building Society Savings Account	1,487	3,823	7,192

Your Savings Plan subscriptions go into Accumulation units of the Fund you choose and income is reinvested automatically after basic rate tax. Further details of the Funds and the Rules of the Plan are available on request. All the Funds are wider-range investments and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

The only charges are those you normally pay with unit trusts - 5% included in the initial price of units and up to 1% annually (currently limited to ¾% except for International Income Fund which is 1%) for management. There are no extra charges for this Savings Plan.

You can vary the amount you pay and you are free to cash in your accumulated investment, or part of it, at any time without penalty.

The Securities in a unit trust are held in safe custody by the Trustee (one of the major banks). You can follow the progress of your plan by looking up the price of units and the current yield in the Financial Times or other leading newspapers. You buy units at the "offer" price and sell at the "bid" price.

NO EXTRA CHARGES

TO: M&G SECURITIES LTD., THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ

I WISH TO SUBSCRIBE £ (min. £20) each month to the M&G Unit Trust Savings Plan and I enclose a cheque (made payable to M&G Securities Limited) for my first subscription of £ (you may wish to start your plan with a lump sum).

I wish my subscriptions to be invested in the Fund circled.

AMERICAN & GEN. INTERNATIONAL INCOME	
AUSTRALASIAN JAPAN & GEN.	
COMPOND GROWTH MIDLAND	
DIVIDEND RECOVERY	
INTERNATIONAL GROWTH SECOND	
	GOLD

The units will be registered in the name of M&G Securities Limited and held for your account under the rules of the plan. If the Savings Plan account is being opened for the benefit of a child, please fill in here the full name of the child.

I understand that further subscriptions can be made at any time (minimum £20) and that I waive my holding on any business day without penalty at the bid price ruling.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

THE M&G GROUP

FAMILY MONEY '83

This is the car in a £million class

SECOND PRIZE

On Monday, December 9, history was made. A Bugatti Type 35 was sold for £400,000 - the highest price paid for a car at a European auction.

The agent who purchased it did not seem anxious about the scale of his bid, for he knew that in clinching the purchase he had acquired for his principal not only one of the most exotic vintage cars still in existence, but had also bought for him a "blue-chip" investment. The car is predicted to be worth £1 million within two years.

Whenever classic cars are mentioned people tend to think of "old crocks" travelling between London and Brighton on a cold Sunday morning in November. However, these are the earliest of the collectable range of cars which span a century of motoring. Such cars are bought not only for their classic appeal, but also as tangible assets which in most cases will appreciate in value ahead of inflation.

The main reason for investing in a classic car is that its sale is exempt from Capital Gains Tax. Combined with the practicality and enjoyment to be had from such ownership, its advantages over other objects d'art soon become clear.

There are drawbacks, however, such as the need to garage your car if you are to keep it in tip-top condition. If used often it will require maintenance and, like other cars, it must be insured and the road tax must be paid, though with regard to the former, there are special "agreed value" policies which take into account the fact that a vintage car is more than just an "old banger" and take note that classics cover a below average annual mileage.



"It is an interest of mine," says David Sinclair of investment in classic cars. The subject for his prize-winning essay, Statistics were gleaned from back issues of Motor Sport and he attends vintage car rallies regularly in pursuit of his hobby. But the £500 prize money will probably help finance his studies: "I am a final year law student at the Polytechnic of Central London and I want to do a master's at the LSE."

What sort of profits may be expected? It is clear from reading through advertisements covering the last 10 years that certain cars are more popular with the collector than others.

They will have a sporting history or heritage. The drop-head versions of certain models are far more popular than the fixed-head variety. Sports cars from the Sixties are now becoming collectable since the cars which were childhood dreams are now affordable to those who were raised in that era.

The table shows how some models have leapt in value over the past 10 years. The prices quoted are from contemporary advertisements for mint condition cars.

How do you buy a classic? The first thing to do is to distinguish between cars which are better bought in mint condition and others where a restoration makes economic sense. In the case of the former a full ground-up rebuild may cost more than the actual value of the car, if a part-restoration at least is to be carried out, the popularity of the car and consequently the availability of spares must be considered. A Jaguar E-Type, for example, being a popular car, is well catered for by specialist dealers.

Next, a practical idea is to join the club which cares for the model in contemplation. So big is the classic car movement today that nearly every make of car has a corresponding club. The members are often willing to offer help to the first-time buyer, such as advising on insurance premiums negotiated with a broker by the club.

Finally, look at which classics represent a good investment for £10,000. In the pre-war (vintage) category, Avion, Daimler and MG are a few of the marques which experts predict are set to rise substantially. In the post-war (classic) category, Jaguar, Aston-Healeys and Triumph TR7s look set to appreciate in value. However, the list is endless since the cars produced today will one day become classics themselves. Who can tell - the car you drive to work tomorrow may one day turn up at Christie's - which is where we came in...

It must be appreciated that while the die-hard enthusiast may prefer earlier pre-war models, the post-war classics are far easier to drive and maintain. The classics are also far more practical if the car is to be used every day rather than sunny weekends.

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CLASSIC CARS

Model	Value (1985)	Value (1975)	% Increase
AC Cobra	7,000	45,000	643
Bentley (4½ litre)	4,000	90,000	2250
Bugatti 135B	9,000	100,000	1111
Jaguar E-Type	1,500	16,000	1067
Marcosini 300SL (Roadster)	4,000	48,000	1000
MG MGA Twin-Cam	700	5,500	785
Ferrari Daytona	4,000	50,000	1250
VW Beetle Convertible	450	4,250	945
Austin 7, saloon (1930)	650	4,000	615

David Sinclair

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Investment	5 YEARS	10 YEARS
£1,459 BUILDING SOCIETY	£2,279	£3,843
£2,279 UNIT TRUST		
£3,149 BUILDING SOCIETY		
£3,843 UNIT TRUST		

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To: Midland Bank Group Unit Trust Managers Limited, Freeport, Sheffield S1 1AX. Telephone Dealing 0742 7842. Enquiries 0742 20999 Ext. 4439. 1 552 52

FAMILY MONEY/4

Appreciate your home

THIRD PRIZE

Given that buying a house is the biggest investment you are likely to make, and that it will almost certainly involve your largest loan— is it wise to buy? Most people seem to think so. The proportion of people owning their own homes has risen steadily since the war (29 per cent in 1950 to 55 per cent in 1980).

But so have prices. Over the last 15 years house prices have increased seven fold, whereas the retail price index showed only a five-fold increase.

Last year was no exception. The average price increase for houses across the UK was 7.5 per cent. However, building societies were offering 9 to 10 per cent (after tax) last year and while houses have steadily appreciated they have in fact been out-performed by the FT All-share index over the last 10 years.

A house starts to look a better investment when you consider that:

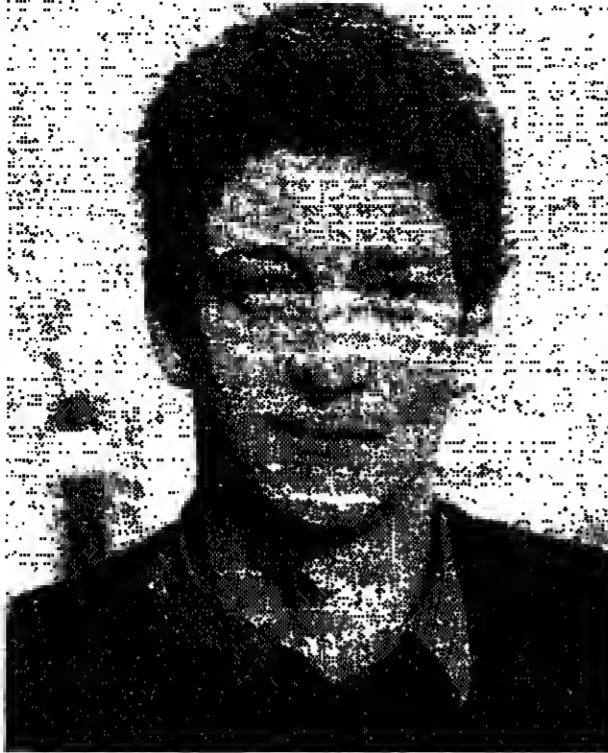
- you can borrow cheap to buy (through mortgage interest relief)
- it can be lived in while it appreciates (unlike shares).

You are eligible for mortgage interest relief on loans up to £30,000 of the purchase price. Married couples have to share this relief. After deduction of basic rate tax relief at 30 per cent, the effective interest rate becomes 4.9 per cent on a mortgage rate of 12.75 per cent. The relief is even greater if you pay tax at a higher rate.

The dividends that a house pays are the savings on rent. The average owner occupier's initial mortgage payments approximate to the rental he or she would have to pay for an equivalent property. Mortgage payments fluctuate with interest rates, whereas the cost of renting like the price of houses, only increases. Against this must be set the costs of rates, usually 7 per cent or less of the house value, more predictable since rate capping, and maintenance (also about 1 per cent).

Your buying and selling costs, each about 3 per cent of the house value, would be covered in two years. The return on your investment depends on the amount invested.

The minimum required is usually around 8 per cent of the house value (a 5 per cent deposit plus buying costs of 3 per cent though it is possible to borrow 100 per cent of the



'I have just bought a house with three friends and I thought I might look into the subject,' says Nick Fox, a 24-year-old medical student at St Thomas's Hospital, London. 'I wrote off to the building societies and asked for all their information and I analysed it but it was difficult to know what to leave out.' Like David Sinclair, the second runner-up, Nick will use his prize money of £250 to subsidize his studies. 'I don't get a grant, so the money will be very useful.'

house price. However the average amount borrowed by house buyers across the UK is only 70 per cent of the house price which means a smaller percentage return on the sum invested.

You achieve your greatest return by taking out the largest mortgage possible (up to £30,000) for the longest possible period.

In 1985 prices of houses in the Greater London area increased by 11.6 per cent, the South East by 11 per cent and East Anglia by 10.7 per cent. However, prices remained virtually static over the same period in the West Midlands, the North and North West regions of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, all with rises of less than 2 per cent.

Over the last 10 years the same pattern emerges, reflecting the economic activity in these regions and a general shift in wealth. It is likely that London, the South and the East will continue to be the best bets for house buying.

Select carefully the location of the house; don't buy a house which will have a motorway or Channel tunnel running through the front

garden in two years' time. To this end, ask to see the local council building plans and building applications.

It is crucially important that you buy a house that is structurally sound. Get the house properly surveyed before you buy it and you should always find out how much it will cost to correct all problems.

Most important, is that you like the house you buy. If you don't, the benefits of security of tenure and the freedom to alter and improve your home are outweighed by a loss of flexibility.

After a year of frustrated searching I must add that buying a house involves a major investment of time, energy and commitment. Despite this we are delighted to be in our new house and feel confident that the reasons that led to houses increasing in value still exist.

But be careful, after losing two houses we thought we had found the perfect property only to be told by the surveyor that due to subsidence the house was moving postal districts — a bad investment!

Nick Fox

Explanations for expatriates

Going abroad to work can involve you in considerable problems, not least of all what to do with the family home.

Should you sell and buy again on return to the UK? Alternatively, if you hang on to it, what difficulties are you likely to encounter with letting and subsequently getting rid of the tenants?

Clearly you are going to need professional advice. The latest organization to set up in this field is Barclays Bank, which has just introduced a new expatriate advisory ser-

vice, based in Jersey.

Barclays says: "The complete package offers expatriates assistance before leaving the UK, while overseas and prior to returning home. Among the services available are a fully comprehensive tax service covering the entire period, a tailor-made insurance package, savings and investment schemes for foreign income and ways of meeting financial commitments in the UK during the period of absence. There is also a special

retainer service which guarantees instant access to one of Barclays' UK specialists for advice on any aspect of savings, investment and UK tax."

Users of the service will be provided with a free expatriate pack which will include, for most major countries, a report giving a synopsis of local information on education facilities, shopping hours, accommodation, transport and many other aspects of local life. The initial interview is also free.

LB

CLERICAL MEDICAL FOR THE SERIOUS INVESTOR.



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NEW AMERICAN GROWTH TRUST
The aim of the Trust is to provide long-term growth in assets through stockmarket investment in North America, largely in the United States. The Managers currently place emphasis on the more cyclical industries such as electronics, technology, chemicals and paper, although less cyclical areas, such as specialty retailers are also seen as likely to provide good growth opportunities. The portfolio is, however, kept constantly under review and the Managers adopt an active approach in keeping with developing market trends. Estimated gross initial yield: 1.5%. Distribution 15th May.

NEW EUROPEAN GROWTH TRUST
The Trust invests in securities of European domiciled companies selected for their potential to provide above average returns. The Trust will not invest in companies domiciled in the United Kingdom. The Managers will put an emphasis on stocks which have the best growth prospects, and it is probable that investment will be concentrated in the economically stronger countries, like Germany, Holland, France and Switzerland. However, the portfolio will be kept constantly under review, and special situations in other European countries will be monitored and advantage taken of any good opportunities for investment. The Trust has the power to invest in the French Second Marché. Estimated gross initial yield: 2.0%. Distribution 15th December.

NEW JAPAN GROWTH TRUST
The Trust invests in securities of companies domiciled in Japan, selected for their potential to produce above average returns. Current income will not be an important consideration in the selection of such equities. The Managers will select a wide variety of Japanese securities in order to participate not only in the fundamental long-term strength that exists in Japan's dominant technology-based industries, but also in those which offer exposure to improvements in the domestic sectors of the economy. The Trust has the power to invest in the Tokyo Over-the-Counter Market. Estimated gross initial yield: 0.9%. Distribution 15th August.

NEW GILT AND FIXED INTEREST INCOME TRUST
The Trust aims to produce a high return combining both income and capital growth from an actively managed portfolio of British Government Securities and other fixed interest securities. While gilts will be the principal form of investment, other good quality sterling fixed interest stocks will be considered. Stocks will be chosen to provide a high total return after tax, and by adopting an active policy of switching between different maturity groups to benefit from changes in the shape of the yield curve, these returns should be enhanced. Estimated gross initial yield: 10.5%. Distribution - see General Information.

ESTABLISHED PERFORMANCE
Two of the existing range of trusts, designed to produce maximum income and/or growth from United Kingdom equities, have already demonstrated the strength of Clerical Medical investment management. The percentage change in offer price for the period 1.11.84-26.2.86 has been as follows:
EQUITY HIGH INCOME TRUST - aiming for above average and growing income with prospects of capital growth + 58%.
GENERAL EQUITY TRUST - aiming for above average returns from a portfolio of United Kingdom quoted equities + 48%.

WELL FOUNDED EXPERTISE
Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers Limited is a subsidiary of Clerical Medical, a mutual society to which clients have safely entrusted their money for over 160 years. Indeed, since 1824, the Society has paid bonuses to with-profits policyholders without a break. Our philosophy is to seek above average long term growth, not to the exclusion of short term performance, but to create the emphasis which we believe to be most appropriate to the needs of our investors. Funds under management now approach £3,000 million.

INVESTING FOR SUCCESS
Today, and until close of business on March 21st 1986, all eight Clerical Medical trusts are on offer with a 10% bonus allocation of units, enabling you to invest in your chosen market on favourable terms. There is also a 25p fixed offer price for the four new trusts. This fixed offer may be closed early at the discretion of the Managers. Minimum investment in any one fund is £500 and you can invest either by post, using the coupon, or by telephoning, using our free Linkline telephone service direct to our dealing department. Remember that the price of units, and the income from them, may go down as well as up. You should look upon your investment as long term.

SHARE EXCHANGE
If you have stockmarket investments to sell, these can generally be exchanged for units in Clerical Medical Trusts, in many cases with a worthwhile saving on costs. Return the coupon for details.

REGULAR SAVINGS
You can build capital in Clerical Medical units through regular monthly savings of £25 or more. Our Unit Trust Savings Plan enables you to invest in any of the full range of 8 trusts with attractive Bonus Allocations of units for long term savers. Return the coupon for details.

HOW TO INVEST
Minimum initial investment in the fund is £500 but thereafter you can add amounts of £250 upwards to your holding.

By Telephone - Units can be bought by telephoning the Managers' Dealing Line (Free Linkline 0800 373393). Settlement will be required on receipt of the Contract Note.

By Post - Units can be bought by sending a completed application form and cheque to the Managers. Units will be allocated at the price applicable on the day the application is received.

GENERAL INFORMATION
Unit Prices and Selling Units - The prices of units and yields are published daily in The Times, Financial Times and Daily Telegraph. If you wish to sell your units, simply complete the endorsement on the back of your Certificate and return it to the Managers. You will receive the full face value of your units on the day your Certificate reaches us and a cheque will normally be forwarded within seven working days of receipt of the Unit Certificate. Charges - An initial charge is included in the Offer Price of the units, and a monthly charge plus VAT of the value of the fund is deducted from the Trust to meet the expenses of the Trustees and Managers.

Initial Charge	Monthly Charge	Maximum Initial Charge	Maximum Monthly Charge	Type of Units	Accumulation
5%	0.5%	5%	0.5%		
					Distribution

Note: These charges will not be increased without 3 months' written notice. Accumulation Units - Income is automatically reinvested and reflected in the Unit Price. Once a year Unit holders will receive a tax voucher for the income they are deemed to have received. Distribution Units - Distribution of income net of basic rate tax from the Clerical Medical Gilt and Fixed Interest Income Trust will be on 15 August, 15 November, 15 February, and 15 May each year, commencing 15 August 1986. Further Information - Units may be bought at the current daily price after the fixed price offer closes. The fixed price offer may be closed early at the discretion of the Managers. Remuneration may be paid to qualified intermediaries and rates are available on request. Contract Notes and Certificates - Contract Notes will be issued on receipt of full instructions. Unit Certificates will normally be issued within 35 working days of receipt of payment. Managers - Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers Limited, Narrow Water, Bristol BS2 0PL. Registered Office - 15 St. James's Square, London SW7Y 4QL. Registered No. 1815491. Trustees - Midland Bank Trust Company Limited, 119 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1AQ.

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Please send me my FREE Guide to Gilts and details of the Aetna GILT-EDGED BOND to:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Name of Professional adviser: _____

Aetna **Gilt-Edged BOND**

PS: If you are self-employed or have no company pension, please tick the box so we can also send you details of Aetna's new Gilt-Edged Pension bond.

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ACT NOW ONLY 7 DAYS LEFT FOR BONUS UNITS

To: Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers Limited, FREEPOST (BS20), BRISTOL BS2 0AB. I/we enclose a cheque made payable to Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers Limited for £ (minimum £500 per trust).

Clerical Medical American Growth Trust £	Clerical Medical European Growth Trust £	Clerical Medical Japan Growth Trust £	Clerical Medical Gilt and Fixed Interest Income Trust £
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The price up to March 21st 1986 will be 25p. After March 21st 1986, the ruling price will be applicable.

Please send me details of: Unit Trust Savings Plan Share Exchange Scheme

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Plenty to go for in Europe. Especially with the leader



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STILL PLENTY TO GO FOR IN EUROPE

We believe there is still plenty of growth left in selected European markets, even following recent rises. If you haven't yet put part of your growth portfolio in Europe, now is definitely the time to do so - with the leader, Grofund.

WE KNOW OUR EUROPE

Grofund European Trust's managers have the advantages of being fast, flexible - and expert. We aim to maximise capital growth by seeking out companies in Europe with the

strongest growth potential - and, above all, by picking the right markets.

The portfolio is currently invested as follows: France 34%, Germany 31%, Italy 16%, Netherlands 11%, Switzerland 6%, Sweden 2%.

A GROWTH MINDED GROUP

Grofund Managers Limited is the unit trust management arm of Allied Irish Investment Bank plc, the merchant banking subsidiary of Allied Irish Banks, with funds under management now totalling £1.5 billion.

HOW TO INVEST

To make a lump sum investment just complete the coupon below and post it to us with your cheque or you can place an order for units by telephoning us on 01-588 5317. The minimum initial investment is £500. You can also invest through our monthly savings plan (minimum £20). Tick box for details.

You should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

However, we believe Grofund European Trust offers excellent potential for long-term growth.

FURTHER INFORMATION

An annual charge of 1% of the value of each fund is deducted from the income of the trusts. The other three of units includes an initial charge of 5%... (The text continues with details about the fund's performance and investment strategy.)

Grofund Managers Limited, 24E, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF

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GROFUND. LIVING UP TO ITS NAME.

A MEMBER OF ALLIED IRISH BANKS GROUP Assets £6.5 billion

Be careful where you take your last gasp

A Brighton undertaker reported that a funeral for a gypsy involved 20 limousines and took up most of the day, while a firm from Portsmouth arranged a funeral for a local showman with eight coffin bearers, 14 drivers, five coachloads of mourners, a hermetically sealed coffin in 20 gauge steel and pewter finish from America, at a total cost of £2,472. These facts emerge from the latest review of funeral costs carried out by the Odds Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society.

If you want to be buried cheaply, make sure you die in Oldham where a funeral will cost as little as £179 the cheapest reported in the survey. But disbursements (flowers and the like) brought the total cost to £410. Average total cost across the country worked out at £530 including disbursements - only £2 more than in the previous year.

The survey always throws up some oddities - according to a Barnsley undertaker 95 per cent of his clients believe in life after death and expect to meet their relatives when they die - not always such a pleasant prospect. Not surprisingly 80 per cent of them expected to go to heaven. But Bristolians seem to be more sceptical - only half believed in life after death and expected to be reunited with their friends and relatives.

Financial focus

Lots of entrepreneurs have ideas for viable businesses, but many have no notion of how to go about presenting their idea, or raising the finance. A new guide to raising money, *Focus on Finance*, is available from accountants Dearden Farrow. Applications for finance are plentiful but suffer a high rejection rate, says Dearden Farrow. Sources of finance have multiplied and become much more sophisticated in recent years, and there really is much more money about. However, there are also numerous calls on that finance so that the provider, whether a local bank manager, or a City institutional investor, does not have to, and usually will not, look at ill-researched applications.

Copies of *Focus on Finance* are available from the publications department, Dearden Farrow, 1 Serjeants' Inn, London EC4Y 1UD (tel: 01 353 2000).

Co-op with a sting

The Co-op Bank has come up with a new budget-type account that on the face of it looks a neat idea. Called the Freeflow Account, it pays interest of 7 per cent, net of basic rate tax, when the account is in credit, and has an automatic overdraft facility of up to £3,000 - with no transaction charges at all. The sting is that when you do overdraw on the account, the interest rate charged is a swingeing 2 per cent a month, which works out at 26.8 per cent APR - more expen-

FAMILY MONEY/5



I've had the most wonderful dream - the Inland Revenue cancelled my account

Living with VAT Our article about the bill going through Parliament to clarify the position of the self-employed prompted conference organizers to write to us with details of their seminar specifically aimed at the "single contract" self-employed. It is a one-day affair at the OCS Conference Centre in London on April 15. The conference sessions will cover aspects of being self-employed, including VAT, definitions of being self-employed and what can be done to make a "single contract" self-employed person less vulnerable to challenge from the Inland Revenue.

The fee for the one-day seminar is £70 plus VAT. Details: Oracle Business Information, 21 The Barton, Cobham, Surrey KT11 2NJ.

Flexible currency With equity markets on both sides of the Atlantic hitting new highs, now might be the time for profit-taking on your equity portfolio while shifting your assets into fixed interest securities - government bonds of one sort or another. In any investment equation you have to take into account the currency situation as well as prospective investment returns, which is why the Guinness Mahon Global Strategy fund offers investors a flexible investment in a number of different currencies - Global Fixed Interest Fund, which will be a managed multi-currency fixed interest fund, as well as European Fixed Interest Fund, and the Yen Fixed Interest Fund. Switching charges between the different funds are competitive and investors have the opportunity to make their own investment decisions.

Other funds available include the Index-Linked Gilts, Sterling, and Dollar Fixed Interest Funds as well as the Managed Currency and Money Funds. Details: Guinness Mahon, PO Box 442, 32 St Mary at Hill, London EC3P 3AJ (01-623 9333).

There's still time

A significant number of UK firms will not have registered to comply with the Data Protection Act 1984 at the close of the registration period on May 1, according to accountants Ernst & Whinney. A survey conducted by the firm showed that of 200 companies sampled in February, only 14 per cent had either registered or completed the registration forms - and there are only 10 weeks to go to the deadline.

Some 37 per cent of companies have not even applied for the forms.

Mercer courses

Our apologies to William Mercer, which runs pre-retirement courses - we got the price wrong last week. The correct price is £1,500 plus VAT for up to 30 people (paid by the employer) not £1,500 a person. The company also runs pre-retirement counselling courses for individuals at a charge of £50 a head, plus VAT or £90 (plus VAT) for a couple. Full details of both types of course are available from William Mercer MPA, Burwood House, 16 Caxton Street, London SW8 9QU (tel: 01 222 982).

Saturday banking

About 50 Midland Bank branches will open on Saturday mornings from today. Branches from Atricham to Plymouth will be open and now is the time to take advantage of Midland's excellent mortgage package. People paying over the normal 12.5 to 13 per cent for their home loan can transfer to Midland, charging 13 per cent, at no cost. Midland will pay legal and valuation fees. Borrowers will also get a 0.5 per cent discount on the interest rate for the first year of repayments.

The high-fliers

The best performing unit trusts have outperformed investment trusts over the past 12 months with Grofund European Unit Trust showing a total return on a £100 investment of 284.50 compared with £62.50 from the top performing investment trust, Lowland. The trust is in any case something of an oddity since the next best performing investment trust, F & C Eurotrust, managed only £35 - a long way behind the leader. Whitbread Worldly European Growth Unit Trust turned in a creditable £22.40 - only a couple of pounds below the number one. Even Hill Samuel European at number 10 in the unit trust league table managed to outperform Lowland at the top of the investment trust table.

Last week in Family Money we mentioned a free advice scheme of the Business Expansion Grants run by a firm of stockbrokers. Unfortunately we published the wrong telephone number. The correct telephone number for brokers Standcliffe Todd's free BES service is 01 636 3321.

As the Sunday Telegraph said on December 15th, "Capel-Cure Myers has proved itself to be one of the very best stockbrokers for dealing with private clients..."

And, as the Observer said, on the same day, "... Vanguard, the unit trust arm of stockbrokers Capel-Cure Myers, is the Small Group of the Year. For the second year running. Its four trusts rose an average 36.7%, an excellent performance."

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FAMILY MONEY/6

Make the most of the hi-tech comeback

INVESTMENT

Hi-tech stocks have been at a low ebb for a couple of years, so now could be the time to start buying to catch the upswing.

One unit trust group, Crown, is launching a new technology fund — "The Crown International Technology Trust" — a recovery trust. "It is a semi-high risk fund," says Andrew Withey, Crown's investment director. "We do not believe that technology companies are about to resume their super-star status of the early 1980s but we think the tide is turning and when it does turn we are going to have to move fast."

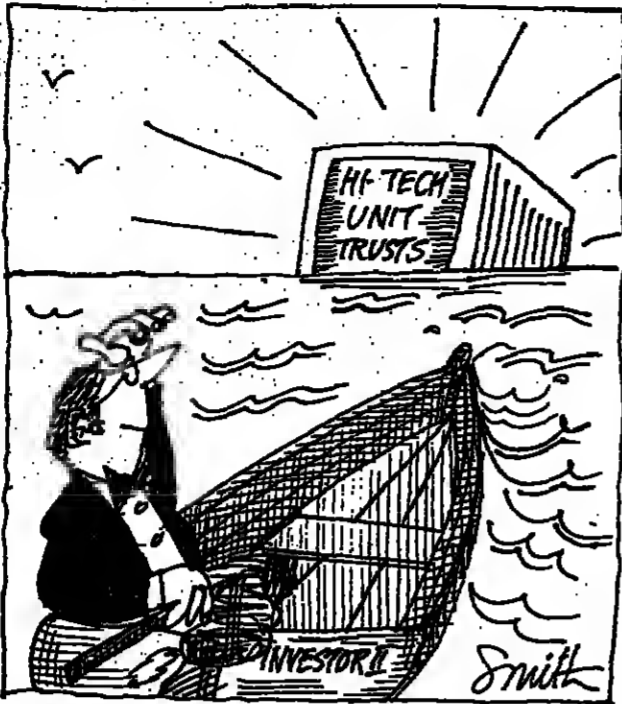
This is a bolder marketing strategy than the usual waiting until a sector is nearing a peak to launch new trusts on the wave of enthusiasm just in time to see a downturn — witness Ensign.

Some of the small manufacturers in the Midlands are now more highly rated than the hi-tech darlings of yesteryear. And there is logic in believing that those technology companies that have survived the lean years are ripe for revival.

The Crown portfolio will initially be 40 per cent invested in the United States, 30 per cent in Japan, 26 per cent in Europe (including the UK) and 4 per cent in Hong Kong.

Technology funds with a global outlook at least have room for manoeuvre when individual regions suffer a decline.

In the past, technology companies have had to buy into the firm no one has heard of, but we will be able to



the technology content of their portfolios to about 60 per cent.

The result has been a significant upswing. The Japanese fund is up 17.1 per cent since January and the American fund is up by 11.3 per cent since the change-over. "I put it down to the change in the mix rather than an upturn in technology stocks," says unit trust manager Malcolm Coen.

But Brian Ashford-Russell, manager of Touche Remnant's Global Technology Fund, technology's star performer, says his fund is up 45 per cent since last October. He got the timing right in the US market and avoided the major UK electrical stocks which have fared badly.

The fund is now 60 per cent in the United States, 15 per cent in Japan and 25 per cent in the UK. "We are heavily underweight in Japan. Japan is looking soggy in the technology area partly because of protectionist worries and partly because of the uncompetitive exchange rate between the yen and dollar."

But the rally in the United States is more firmly based with companies changing managements or cutting costs. Mr Ashford-Russell thinks the next three months in technology stocks will be flat but the strengthening US economy will see sustained growth over the next year.

rather miserable if you ran a technology fund," he says.

Stocks have had significant price movements based not on fundamentals but on anticipation of the good times ahead. Some of the US semi-conductor stocks have put on 50 per cent since then.

"It's slowly getting better. His \$45 million fund is 55 per cent invested in the United States, 25 per cent in the UK, 16 per cent in Japan and 4 per cent in cash.

Technology stocks are strongly cyclical but the overall trend means that investors who have held steady will have beaten the market over the long term.

Chris Tracy, who manages Save & Prosper's New Technology fund, does not believe that the upward path for technology stocks will be smooth. "It is a very depressed sector." But he sees plenty of opportunity in the smaller companies which are not so well researched and may turn up bargains.

Vivien Goldsmith
"The Crown International Technology Fund is being launched alongside a Japanese and European fund to join Crown's three existing trusts. Charges will be 5 per cent initial charge and 1 per cent annual management fee. The minimum investment is £1000

"If I was launching a new technology fund I would launch in June or July — prospects for growth are good in the last quarter of the year," he says.

John Gurney, manager of the oldest technology fund, Allied Dunbar Technology which started life in the 1950s as an electrical and industrial trust, says it is not a bad time to launch a technology fund now. "Although in retrospect last September would have been better — technology stocks have done very well since then."

Eighteen months ago life was

"Upward path will not be smooth"

Tax avoidance has long been regarded as "fair game", but avoiding National Insurance has, until now, often brought on a vague feeling of unease. However, many companies still reeling from the provision in last year's Budget which removed the ceilings on employers' National Insurance contributions. So employers have been looking to their advisers for schemes to reduce their National Insurance liability.

One scheme is the use of discretionary trusts for employees. These trusts have been around for some time but this week, a DHSS spokesman said: "Employees' trusts seem to be becoming more popular. However, compa-

nies must ensure that the payments made by the trusts do actually satisfy paragraph 19 of the 1979 Social Security (Contributions) Regulations."

This provides that certain kinds of payments are to be excluded when working out a person's earnings for National Insurance contribution purposes. Payments by an employer to trustees of employees' trusts and the subsequent payments by the trustees in favour of employees can fall within the National Insurance exclusions.

Therefore, payments of bonuses through an employees' trust can be particularly worthwhile. The trust

allows an employer to pay in the bonus, the trustees exercise their discretion and in due course pay the money out to the employee. National Insurance is not paid by either employee or employer. A barrister, Patrick Soares, said: "If the idea really takes off, the Government will almost certainly stop it. There is already an anti-avoidance provision in paragraph 21 of the 1979 regulations. This allows the DHSS to ignore 'abnormal pay practices' and claim National Insurance contributions as if normal pay practices had been followed. However, the legislation does

not define what is "abnormal" for this purpose. Patrick Way, a tax solicitor, commented: "It is a grey area as to whether or not payments of bonuses through employees' trusts fall within this abnormal pay practice. However, where a significant proportion of employees' earnings have traditionally been paid by way of bonus, an argument that the arrangement was in fact normal might well succeed."

One final word of warning. The trusts must be drafted and used with care so as not to prejudice both the employers' and employees' tax position.

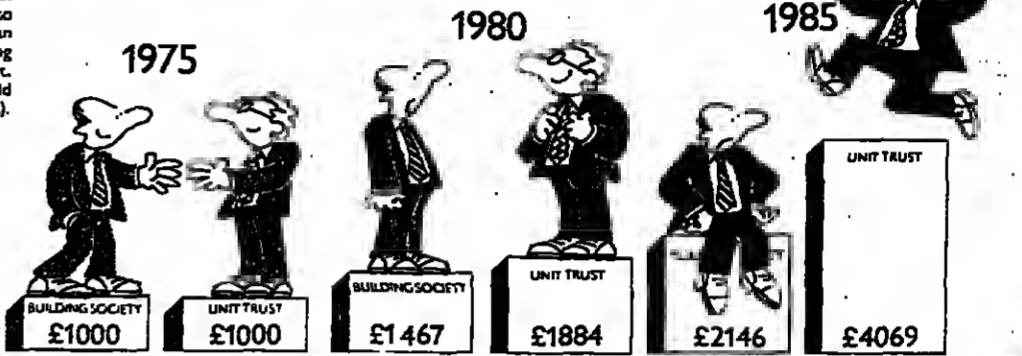
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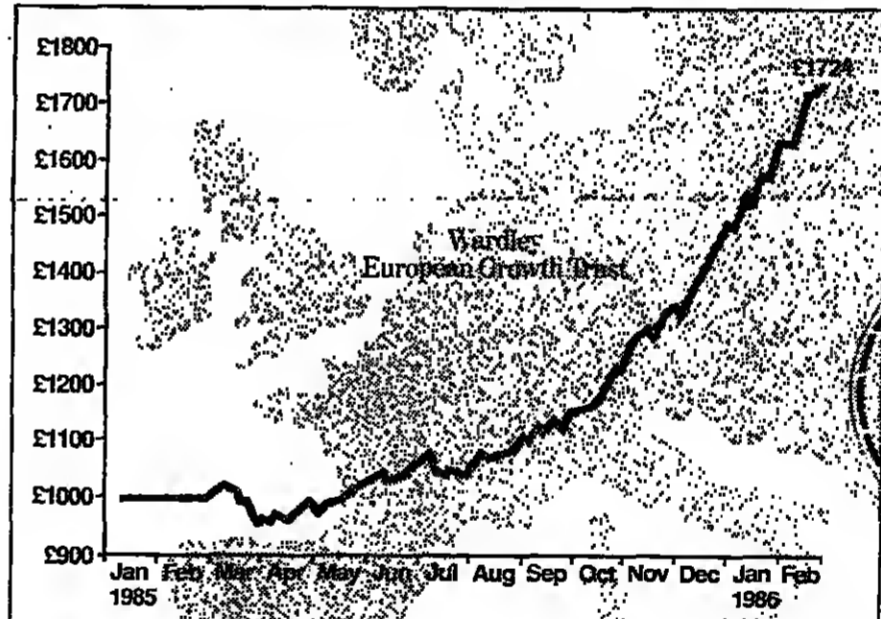
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Charges: An initial charge of 5% is included in the price of units. Commission is paid to qualified intermediaries, the rates being available on request. Annual management charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the Trust is deducted from the income (or capital, if there is insufficient income).

Safeguards: The Trust is authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and is a wider range investment under the Trustee Investment Act 1984. The Trustee is Lloyd's Bank Plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC2P 3LL.

Management Company: Wardley Unit Trust Managers Limited, Reg. No. 1292425, England, Registered Office: Wardley House, 71 Lombard Street, London EC2P 3LL.

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Fund	one year	three years
TR Global	119.1	
Sentinel Japanese	100.2	
Lloyds Bank International	95.4	133.6
Allied Dunbar	94.9	127.6
Hill Samuel Japanese	94.9	
Target (US)	91.1	
Kleinwort Benson World	90.6	
Britannia World	88.9	101.4
Profitic	87.9	120.5
Brown Shipley	87.8	119.8
IG	87.3	
Barclay Unicorn Universal	85.6	
Wardley	85.3	162.4
S & P New	84.9	120.5
GT Technology & Growth (US)	74.7	79.6
Sentinel American	63.9	71.7

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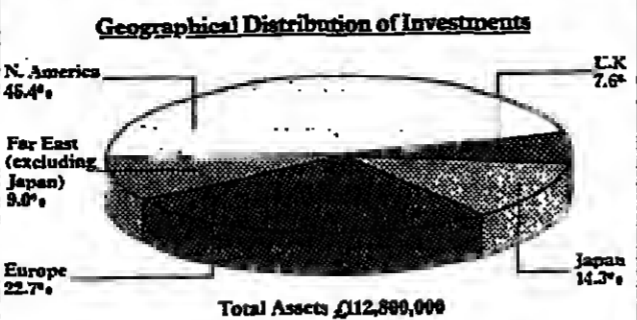
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*Source: Association of Investment Trust Companies.
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'Eva' will tax our patience



All smiles for Brits on the Costa del Sol - but for how long now that prices are creeping up?

Spain joined the Common Market on January 1 and already a mountain of muddles is awaiting unwary tourists.

The new Common Market-style tax, IVA, which is the Spanish version of our VAT, has sent some prices rocketing - not always with any justification.

The nastiest shock for tourists will come when they rent a car. Car hire was tax-free but now it carries the 33 per cent luxury tax under IVA.

The tax - pronounced Eva

- has three bands: 6 per cent for food, medicine, books and domestic property, 12 per cent for services and commercial property and 33 per cent for luxury boats, cars, jewellery, furs and hired cars.

Restaurant prices, which previously included the old taxes, will now be shown exclusive of IVA and the tax will be added at the end, with food and drink being shown separately. Food bears tax at 6 per cent and alcoholic drinks at 12 per cent. Just to confuse matters further, mineral waters and other soft drinks are taxed at 6 per cent.

One Madrid restaurant owner who had attended a series of government seminars on IVA announced that he had finally understood it all. His prices were going to be put up by 12 to 15 per cent. He said: "My suppliers will charge me IVA at 6 per cent and I have to charge it at 6 per cent to my customers - and 6 and 6 make 12."

Though genuine confusion abounds, there are also many businesses in Spain who see the new order as a good cloak for raising prices - just like the introduction of VAT in Britain. Newspapers in Spain reported the chaos and mean

while they have to register the purchase so that when they come to sell they can take the money out of the country. Any rental income will be subject to Spanish tax of 18 per cent after allowances for running expenses.

Britain and Spain have a double taxation agreement,

Developers ask any price they want

which means you will not pay full British taxes all over again if you bring the money back into this country.

Spain had a miserable tourist season last year after all the publicity about muggings and violence. It does not seem to have dampened the market for holiday homes.

Alan James, who runs the Lincolnshire-based Sunhomes, is expanding his Bena Vista apartments and sports-centre complex be-

tween Marbella and Gibraltar on the Costa del Sol.

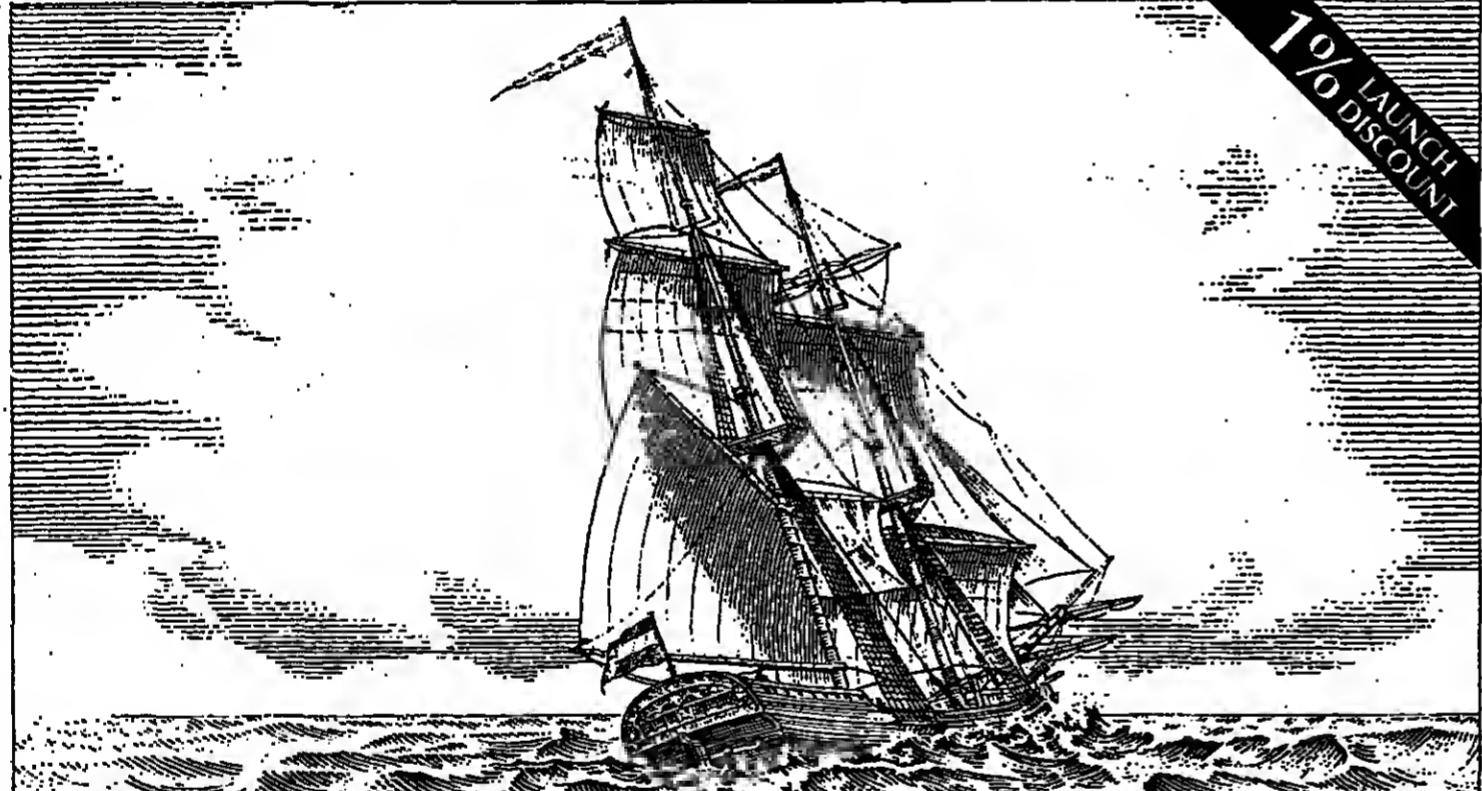
"People talk about the market here being in decline but we can literally demand whatever price we need for a property and still get good margins," said Mr James at the recent opening of a shopping precinct adjoining the development.

His confidence in the property boom in the area continues to be shared by Whipey, which is linking up with him in a £30 million time-share project to build between 200 and 400 holiday homes next to the golf course.

Southern Spain has a year-round season. Pensioners spend the winter months there to escape expensive fuel bills, sportsmen, especially golfers, go there all year, and families flock there for seaside holidays during the blazing summer months.

Vivien Goldsmith

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To help you take advantage of them, EBC Amro Unit Trust Management Limited has launched the 'EBC Amro Dutch Growth Trust'. The Trust aims to produce capital growth from a range of Dutch securities, including traded options. The majority of these will be quoted on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange, Europe's oldest and one of its largest stock markets. The Trust Deed permits investment on the Dutch Parallel (secondary) market, if and when authorized by the Department of Trade and Industry. This market corresponds to the USM in the UK.

RECORD BREAKER
 Over the last two years the Dutch market has outperformed the UK, US and Tokyo exchanges, as well as most of those in Europe, rising by 41% in the last year. The Dutch economy is strong. It is estimated that GNP will rise by 2.5% during 1986 and industrial production will increase by 4%. In P/E terms, Holland is one of the cheapest markets in Europe. (See Graph).

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Remember, the price of units and the income from them, can go down as well as up.

GENERAL INFORMATION
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 Estimated gross current yield is 2.25% at the launch price of 50p. Managers reports on the fund will be issued on 15th February each year. Income will be distributed annually net of basic rate tax on 15th February. Prices are quoted in the National Press. Trustee: Midland Bank Trust Company Limited. (Not open to residents in Eire.)

EBC AMRO DUTCH GROWTH TRUST

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 (Joint applicants must sign and attach names and addresses separately.)

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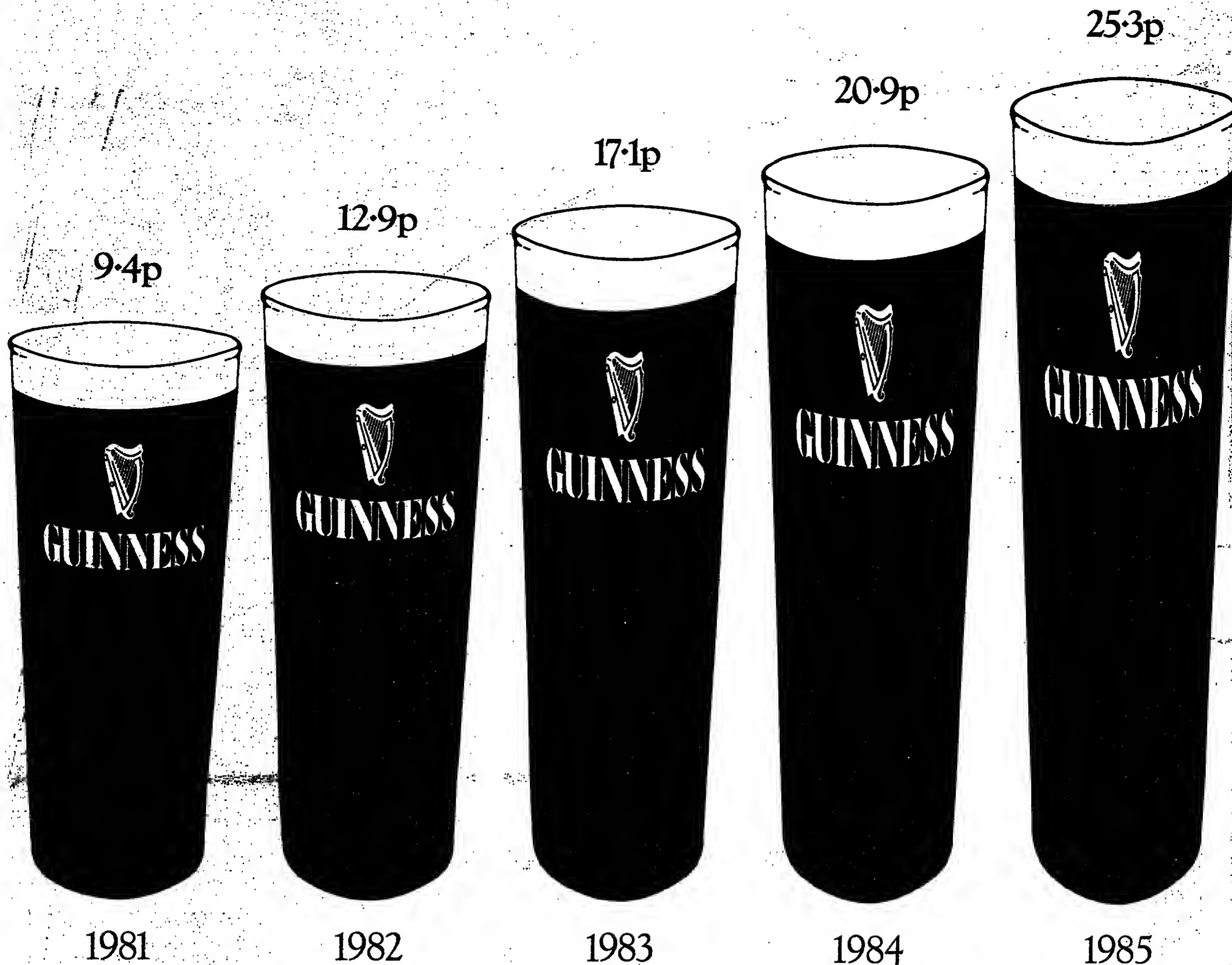
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COLLECTING

The full-length portrait of Mrs Ance Vereist by the fashionable 18th-century painter George Romney adorns the cover of the catalogue produced by Old Bood Street art dealers Colnaghi to highlight its current exhibition, The British Face. A View of Portraiture 1625-1850.

When Colnaghi featured the painting in its *Country Life* advertisement for the exhibition, it was spotted by the picture's former owner, a widow, who sold it through Sotheby's auction house in November 1984.

Interested, she telephoned Colnaghi and was told they were asking around £15,000 - which astonished her because it had realized just £25,000 at auction 17 months ago.

'A dealer may add at least 100%'

She says: "If Colnaghi had put a price tag of £50,000 or even £75,000 on the painting I would not have been surprised. I have bought and sold quite a lot of valuable things in my time and you expect a dealer to add at least 100 or 150 per cent to the price."

"But a growth in value of 350 per cent in just over a year must be the way to a record. I can't help wondering if Sotheby's seriously undervalued the picture to start with."

It is not, she points out, a question of Romney suddenly becoming staggeringly fashionable - so how come the huge differential in price?

Colnaghi now appears to be asking even more money for the portrait since the previous owner made her inquiries. When I went along to Colnaghi last week I was told the asking price was about £125,000 for what the dealers (and the art critics who reviewed the exhibition) considered to be one of Romney's most important works.

"I can't help feeling that the reserve price of £25,000 advised by Sotheby's may have been too low," she says. "Naturally, I am mad about it. After all, you pay the auction house for its expertise on these matters. After deductions for commission and advertising I received a total of £21,415."

Fiona Ford of Sotheby's says: "The portrait came up for sale in one of our two major annual auctions. Sotheby's estimated its value at something between £25,000 and £40,000 and it only reached the reserve price. The painting was given maximum exposure with two pages in the catalogue."

"Yes, it must be maddening for the previous owner to see the price tag put on it by Colnaghi, but these things are really not that uncommon."

"The other Romneys in the auction went for less than the Ance Vereist portrait. It is also a very large painting, which always limits the number of buyers."

Fiona Ford points out that Colnaghi, which appears to have bought the painting at the Sotheby's auction in November 1984, has had to finance it and look after it without yet seeing any return on its money.

She says: "It appears that Colnaghi has not actually sold the painting. If that's the price it thinks it can get, then good luck. The fact is that a work of art is only worth what someone is prepared to pay for it and there is no guarantee how long Colnaghi will have to wait to get that price, or indeed if it ever will."

"The price realized in the auction room is still the ultimate test of what something is worth."

True, but this is not much comfort to our reader, or anyone else who sees the art market as a form of investment as well as a source of pleasure.

"It has rather shaken my faith in the auction houses."

"I am going to have to sell some other things that my husband and I bought over the years because I need the money and I recently asked another auction house for a valuation of a rather beautiful sideboard."

"The auction house estimated its value at £2,000. Then, when I went to a London antique dealer and expressed an interest in buying this kind of sideboard I was informed that I would have to pay at least £10,000."

"The question is: Where do I go to get a good price for things? I think any other readers in my position would be well advised to get valuations from at least two auction houses before putting anything on the market. Either that, or ask a gallery to sell on commission if you can afford to wait for your money."

Maggie Drummond

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*As 11th March, 1986

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That forecast has certainly been borne out so far - with the Dow Jones Index up 12.9% ready this year.

What's more, the recent drop in oil prices is good news for American

exporters, as companies around the world are enjoying lower energy costs - and are thus far better able to afford new machinery and computers.

The prospects for the American market continue to look excellent.

How To Invest

The North American Trust is available to everyone aged 18 or over. Simply decide how much you wish to invest (minimum £500) - then complete the application form and send it, with your cheque, to Eagle Star Group, (LC43), FREEPOST, Bath Road, Cheltenham, GL53 3BR. No stamp is needed.

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You can also obtain further information about this (or any other) Eagle Star Unit Trust on this number. Our experts will be available to answer your call from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekdays and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at weekends.

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Following The Progress Of Your Investment. We will send you a Contract Note within 7 days and a Unit Certificate usually within 28 days. Both of these will state the number of units you have bought. Unit prices are shown in The Times and The Financial Times.

Capital Gains Tax. The trust itself is not subject to capital gains tax and when you sell your units, you will not have to pay this tax, unless your total realisable gains in the tax year exceed the tax-free threshold, which is currently £1,000.

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FAMILY MONEY '9

The card with cover may not do nicely

INSURANCE

American Express is spreading its wings and moving away from the straightforward entertainment and leisure fields into selling financial packages. Travel insurance was an obvious one to begin with and American Express's year-round travel package is undoubtedly one of the best, if not the best on offer.

But the latest promotion from American Express is a different kettle of fish. The Cardmember Income Protection plan is a sickness benefit policy aimed at the self-employed to provide income during periods of illness.

The company is marketing this plan with typical American panache. "It is hard to think of a better way of protecting yourself against the financial effects of an accident or illness," says the brochure which goes out to cardholders.

At first sight this seems true enough. The scheme has a number of attractive features, such as not making women pay higher rates than men — the industry norm.

Cover is also cheap. For every £100 worth of monthly income required, a cardholder between the ages of 41 and 45 would have to pay just £1.50 a month.

The maximum amount of cover is £1,500 a month or half your gross monthly income, whichever is the smaller. But this scheme, and other short-term sickness insurance designed to protect income, certainly does have its drawbacks. In fact, rather than doing nicely, unless you are careful you might find it will not do at all.

The new plan provides income after 30 days of disablement and then the monthly sum insured will be paid for up to 12 months. After that the cover terminates. This is crucially different from a permanent health policy.

"I would dispute the assertion that short-term sickness and accident cover is at all comparable with permanent health cover," says Tony Segaller of Friends' Provident. "The essential features of permanent health cover are that it continues after disablement for as long as the specified ceasing age, and secondly that the insurance company can't turn round and

cancel after a period of time. Permanent health cover is permanent."

Another industry spokesman describes insuring against sickness as "the peace of mind business. If you want complete peace of mind you don't just insure short term."

But surely a year is long enough? A 12-month lay-off might seem to be sufficient to protect in the majority of cases. Proving that, however, is not easy.

Frank Martin is a member of the of the PHI subcommittee for the depressingly titled Continuous Mortality Investigation. "That information isn't available," he says. "But what I can say is that, roughly speaking, one in five people who are sick enough to want income protection after deferring their claim for 13 weeks will still want cover after a year."

Patients who really stand to lose

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And it is those who still require cover after a year who really stand to lose out if they take out short-term cover and rely on it for income protection. After your year of payments has run out you may find yourself still sick and unable to obtain further cover.

Who would blame an insurance company for not wishing to undertake the charitable, but unprofitable business of insuring the already sick against sickness? "We'd have to judge each case on its merits. Perhaps we'd take on someone who had claimed on a short-term policy for something like a badly broken leg which is now healed," says Peter Brading of Sun-Alliance. "But we'd have to draw the line somewhere. If you think you need benefit, you need it for the rest of your life."

He adds that the number of people who were sick enough to want to claim after two months' illness and who still required cover after a year's payment was "pretty high".

Michael Auld of Guardian Royal Exchange says his company almost certainly would not renew a short-term policy where a claim had been made, and admits that a short-term claimant is going to find it very difficult to get long-term permanent health insurance. His answer is to train sales staff to identify what consumers really need. "Know what you purchase, and you'll get what you pay for."

American Express admits it "should with hindsight have emphasized the short-term nature of the policy". According to Janet Brady, public relations director, "it's not meant to replace long-term cover". Yet the promotional material speaks for itself: "This is the vitally important difference between the Plan and many long-term health insurance policies...the fact that the qualification period is so remarkably short — just 30 days."

Good idea for the self-employed

Thirty days' deferment before benefit is paid is quite normal in short-term policies. Surely it would be fairer to say that the crucial difference between short-term and long-term cover is the limit on the payment of benefits — with all the difficulties that might create for a person who contracts a long-term illness or disability?

This plan, and others like it are perfectly good, provided they meet a recognized need. It may be a good idea to have both sorts of health cover — especially if you are self-employed. You could have the short-term cover because it is cheap — and proper long-term permanent health cover with a 12-month deferment before benefits were paid. This would then come into action once the short-term policy benefits had been exhausted — and the 12-month deferment would dramatically reduce premiums on the PHI policy.

If you are having difficulty in deciding what your needs really are, the answer must be to consult an insurance broker, who should be a member of the British Insurance Brokers' Association.

Lorna Bourke

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WOMEN MORE THAN A SIDEWAYS GLANCE!

The proposed reform of the taxation of husband and wife, expected in the Budget, is unworkable and unfair to women, according to a panel of experts questioned by *Taxation* magazine.

The Chancellor is proposing to replace the married man's allowance with a single personal allowance transferable between husband and wife if unused. This would give a married couple where the wife does not work two personal allowances instead of just the married man's allowance.

"This would offer no privacy to wives with earnings or savings of their own, could be a major source of marital disharmony and would discourage many women from re-entering employment after raising a family," was the conclusion of the *Taxation* experts.

The proposed reforms are not likely to be popular with any except childless couples where the wife does not work — hardly the most needy group. And they

'The unfair tax plan'

will do nothing to help the fastest growing deprived sector of society — one-parent families.

The original Green Paper on the taxation of husband and wife favoured freeing the married man's allowance and letting the single person's allowance gradually rise until both are equal. The money saved could then be used to increase child benefit. Single-parents and families with children — those most in need of relief from the tax system — would be the major beneficiaries of such a change and it is the reform favoured by those organizations dealing with poverty.

Indeed, there is no argument for leaving child benefit untaxed (provided

it continues to be paid without deduction of tax to the mother). It could then be dramatically increased, at no extra cost, benefiting low earning families.

"If you are going to have separate taxation, that in itself means that the person who is being taxed does not have to tell anybody else what his or her income is," said Baroness Robson, one of *Taxation's* committee. "Under transferable allowances the wife still won't know what the husband is earning but he will know what she is earning."

Transferable allowances would, the committee concluded, be a nightmare to administer, precipitating a mass of claims for underpayment or repayment of tax at the end of the year. Couples would not necessarily know for certain at the beginning of each tax year how much of their personal tax allowances a wife could use.

LB

The patient's dilemma

HEALTH INSURANCE

We are constantly being told to look for best buys for everything from lounge suites to life policies, umbrellas to unit trusts. However, people

wondered where consumerism was going to stop when a BUPA spokesman recently said: "The public has to shop around for medical fees for specialists such as surgeons and anaesthetists."

There are about four million people subscribers to private medical insurance and it is estimated that 60 per cent of those are in company or group schemes.

BUPA has 67 per cent of the market share and as its spokesman commented: "BUPA has a significant role to play in the private medical industry, and other companies tend to follow our lead."

However, to one important aspect of medical insurance, the majority of other companies have not followed suit. BUPA reimburses its members for fees for surgeons, anaesthetists, physicians and physiotherapy only up to certain specified limits.

This rule applies even though there is no overall maximum to the total benefits payable to every person in any year.

Other companies such as PPP (Private Patients Plan) and WPA (Western Provident Association) have no such limits to their maximum benefits for medical fees.

BUPA is in a difficult position. It says: "As market

leaders we have a responsibility not only to our members, but also to the whole private medical industry. If we gave full refunds it would be inflationary. We pay 97 per cent of all claims in full and most specialists."

Eric Foxford, of Company Medical Insurance Consultants, based in Hendon, north London, agrees with BUPA's attitude: "BUPA's limits should be adequate and if they were removed it would be like giving an open cheque book to the medical profession. I already know of one London hospital where the daily room rate is £225."

"If you ring up to book a room and you tell them that you are on a scheme which pays only £153, the hospital will waive the difference. If you are on a 'full' refund scheme they will charge you

'After surgery I was not able to argue'

the full rate for exactly the same room."

There are a number of consultants, particularly in London, who already do charge more than the BUPA limits.

BUPA's advice is to agree the fee with the consultant in advance. If it is over the limit then you should shop around for another consultant.

But one family doctor commented: "In practical terms it is difficult to recommend patients to numerous different consultants. Changing a consultant that you have been seeing for several years is not

that straightforward. Similarly, if you need an emergency operation, being wheeled to the operating theatre is hardly the time to ask whether the surgeon's fees are covered."

Stan White, personnel manager of Lingsphone, said: "We were very pleased with the service that BUPA provided."

"However, we have recently changed our company scheme from BUPA as I do not feel our employees should be expected to shop around."

A personal assistant, Katherine Buss, did follow BUPA's advice and asked in advance what the fee would be. It fell within BUPA's limits. However, the surgeon told her after the operation that it had been more serious and the fee had gone up. It was now over BUPA's limit.

She said: "Two weeks after major surgery I was in no state to argue. I paid the difference out of my own money but as soon as I could I joined my employer's scheme with PPP who offer a full refund."

Unfortunately, BUPA appears to bear the burden of monitoring the ever-increasing fees of the medical profession.

BUPA does seem to bend over backwards to "look at individual cases and will contact consultants where limits have been exceeded. However, unless BUPA can persuade the consultants to reduce the bill, at the end of the day, members will still have to pay any excess."

BUPA offers a discretionary benefit option to companies as



Eric Foxford: A saving

an extra facility. This will provide a full refund for all bills but is available only to companies with 50 or more employees and is claims-related for costing.

As Mr Foxford commented: "I would only recommend to a company a medical insurance that provided a full refund or discretionary benefit option."

By choosing their medical insurance wisely, companies, in particular, can obtain improved benefits and also save substantial sums on premiums.

Mr Foxford saved around £400 a year for Tropical Plants and Displays Ltd., of west London, by changing its insurance — and it had only five employees enrolled. A large national corporation recently reduced its medical insurance bill by £45,000 by switching insurers.

Mr Foxford says: "Our ultimate aim is, as far as possible, to retain a company's existing arrangements and renegotiate a better deal for them. Changing insurers is not always appropriate."

Susan Fieldman

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WHAT MEDICAL FEES INSURANCE OFFERS — LONDON RATES

BUPA Co. Care	PPP Corporate Health Fund B	WPA Co. Supercover	BCWA Extra Security Scale	Crown Co. Healthcare B	Health First	Cassard Map 2	Orion Healthcare	AMEL GIC2
Benefits: annual max	No upper limit	£45,000	£45,000	£45,000	£40,000	No upper limit	No upper limit	£50,000
Specialist: surgeon and anaesthetist for each operation and anaesthetist	Major £281 Minor £238 Minor £136 Complex major £31 (4-5) 248	Refund	Refund	Refund	Refund	Major £740 Major £275 Minor £200 Minor £170 Complex major £25-£120	Major £825 Major £525 Minor £200 Minor £150 Complex major £1,325	Refund
Physicians fees (weekly)	£115	Refund	Refund	Refund	Refund	Refund	Refund	Refund
Specialists fees for consultations such as physiotherapy	Up to £275 per year for each insured	Refund	Refund	Refund	Refund	Refund	Refund	Refund

*Full refund. Where limits are shown, this is a total for both surgeon and anaesthetist. Full refund up to 26 weeks.

FRAMLINGTON

AMERICA

Framlington American & General Fund Gives Access to a Vast and Rewarding Market: North American Smaller Companies.

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THE RECORD
The fund was formed in April 1978. Since then the American market as a whole, as reflected by the Standard & Poors Composite Index, has done well, rising 133 per cent. Large companies, as reflected by the Dow-Jones Industrial Average, have risen 104 per cent. But with its emphasis on smaller companies Framlington American & General Fund has risen no less than 380 per cent. Part of this success has been due to the exchange rate falling from \$1.81 to \$1.46, but even with this stripped out, the unit price shows a rise of 288 per cent.

The practical effect for the investor is that an original investment of £1,000 could have been sold on 7 March 1986 for £4,520.

Planned Savings figures show that over the seven years to 1st March American & General Fund was one of the two best performing unit trusts investing in North American shares, turning £1,000 into £4,543. A £20 per month investment had grown to £3,875 for a total outlay of £1,680.

THE FRAMLINGTON STYLE
As with Framlington Capital Trust in Britain, American & General Fund's performance has been achieved by carefully picking out smaller companies and then tending to stay with them. There is a special emphasis on regional stocks. We tend to be fully invested in a long list of shares (currently 257), and fully exposed to the dollar (although we are prepared to hedge if necessary). Turnover in the fund is lower

than average, keeping the dealing costs low, which helps performance.

On 7 March the price of income units (with a small distribution every year) was 240.4p. Accumulation units (in which net income is reinvested) were 245.6p. The estimated gross yield was 0.55 per cent.

LUMP SUM INVESTMENT
You can make a lump sum investment simply by completing the form below and sending it to us with your cheque. Units are allocated at the price ruling when we receive your order. The minimum investment for a lump sum is £500. There is a discount of 1 per cent for investments of £10,000 or more.

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Investors should regard all unit trust investment as long term. They are reminded that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

GENERAL INFORMATION
Applications will be acknowledged; certificates for lump-sum investments will be sent by the registrar, Lloyds Bank Plc, normally within 42 days. The minimum initial investment is £500. Units may be bought and sold daily. Prices and yields will be published daily in leading newspapers. When units are sold back to the managers payment is normally made within 7 days of receipt of the renounced certificate. Savings plans can be cashed in at any time. Income net of basic rate tax is distributed to holders of income units annually on 15 October. The annual charge is 1% (+VAT) of the value of the fund. The initial charge, which is included in the offer price, is 3%. Commission is paid to qualified intermediaries at the rate of 1% (+VAT). Commission is not paid on savings plans. The trust is an authorised unit trust constituted by Trust Deed. It ranks as a wider range security under the Trustee Investments Act, 1961. The Trustee is Lloyds Bank Plc. The managers are Framlington Unit Management Limited, 3 London Wall Buildings, London EC2M 5NQ. Telephone 01-628 5181. Telex 8812599. Registered in England No 895241. Member of the Unit Trust Association. This offer is not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

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I wish to invest _____ in Framlington American & General Fund (minimum £500)

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(Joint applicants should all sign and if necessary give details separately)

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FRAMLINGTON

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

Banks
Current account — no interest paid. Deposit accounts — seven days, notice required for withdrawals. Barclays 5.75%. Lloyds, Midland and NatWest at 6.5 per cent. National Girobank 6.5 per cent. Fixed term deposits £10,000-£24,999, 1 month 8.75 per cent, 3 months 8.25 per cent, 6 months 7.875 per cent. (Rates from NatWest) Other banks may differ.

National Savings Income Bond
Min. investment £2,000 — max. £50,000. Interest — 12 per cent variable at six weeks notice paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 months' notice. Parity rate in first year.

National Savings Indexed Income Bond
Start rate monthly income for first year, 8 per cent, increased at end of each year to match increase in prices as measured by Retail Prices Index. Cash value remains the same. Income taxable, paid gross. Three months' notice of withdrawal. Minimum investment £5,000, in multiples of £1,000, maximum £50,000.

National Savings 3rd Indexed Certificate
Maximum investment £5,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the Retail Price Index. Supplement of 2.5 per cent in the first year; 2.75 per cent in the second year; 3.25 per cent in the third year; 4 per cent in the fourth year and 4.25 per cent in the fifth year. Value of Retirement Issue. Certificates purchased in March 1981, £151.30 including bonus and supplement February 1981 578.7

(The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month)

National Savings Certificates
31st issue. Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 7.85 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts — if a minimum balance of £100 maintained for whole of 1986, 6 per cent interest p.a. for each complete month in which balance is over £500, otherwise 3 per cent. Investment Account — 11.5 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £50,000.

Guaranteed Income Bonds
Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity. 1.2, 3 and 4 Years — General Portfolio — 9.0%. 5 years — New Direction Finance — 9.0%.

Local Authority Town Hall Bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers until April 1986 when CRT becomes payable). 1 year — North — 10.5%. 2 and 3 years — Kirkcaldy — 11%, A.S. & 6 years — Worthing 10.75%, 9 and 10 years — West Yorkshire — 10.5%. Minimum investment in each — £500. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, Loans Bureau (01-638 6361 between 10am and 2.30pm) see also Prestel no 24808.

Building Societies
Ordinary shares accounts — 7.00 per cent. Extra interest accounts usually pay 1 to 2 per cent more over the ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered, individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

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Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Int. Reserves 0481 26741. Seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

Sterling 1.86 per cent
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A retailer of quality shoes, selling under the names "Event" and "Duo", and of clothing under "Benetton" franchises currently trading from 11 shops. Pre-tax profit projection of £308,000 for current year.

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FAMILY MONEY/11

Number 50 gets his cash

The 50th investor in Signal Life, the Gibraltar-based insurance company which failed in 1982, has just been successful in recovering his investment from the broker who recommended Signal Life, marking yet another triumph for SLIAG (Signal Life Investors' Action Group).

"All those people who have had the bottle to take their broker to court have been successful in recovering not just their original investment, but interest and costs too," reports John Potter, the indefatigable co-ordinator of SLIAG.

About 14 brokers, many of them registered with the Insurance Brokers' Registration Council (IBRC) and members of BIBA (British Insurance Brokers' Association), have now compensated their clients for putting them into the gilt bonds issued by Signal Life.

Investors have been winning their court actions in many cases because the bro-

kers failed to check whether the gilt bond fund, run by Signal Life, had a trustee. It did not, and as a result no reputable broker should ever have promoted Signal Life's products.

Many did, however, in order to earn the higher than usual commission paid by the insurance company, which subsequently collapsed.

But if 50 Signal Life investors have been compensated, there are still about 300 who have still received not a penny. Many of the brokers have professional indemnity insurance which should pay out if it is proved that they have been negligent.

But they are hiding behind this, Mr Potter claims, as an excuse for not paying compensation.

"They are saying that the IF insurers are refusing to agree to how long any cases might take, which means they cannot get to court," explains Mr Potter.

Of the £1.5 million owing to investors in the Signal Life Gilt Bond, about £150,000 has now been recovered by SLIAG.

"But we have another fifty cases, at least on the go," confirms Mr Potter.

"The most depressing aspect of the whole affair is that the IBRC and BIBA have been absolutely useless.

"And if the public thinks that membership of these organizations is any protection for them, they are wrong. They have done nothing."

BIBA and the IBRC have both mounted publicity campaigns over the years aimed at convincing the public that it is better to go to a registered broker or a member of BIBA rather than trusting your affairs to the "unregulated" financial adviser.

In the event, this does not seem to have been much protection for Signal Life investors.

Lorna Bourke

The Merchants Trust PLC

Highlights of the year

(unaudited results for the year ended 31st January 1986)

Net earnings per ordinary share 3.79p +24.7%
 Dividend per ordinary share 3.75p +25.0%
 Net asset value per ordinary share 134.0p +10.1%

Dividend Forecast

Present indications suggest that the Board will recommend an increase in total dividend of 15% for the current year making a total dividend of approximately 4.3p.

Investment Objective

The company's investment policy is primarily to provide an above average level of income and income growth, together with long term growth of capital. The intention is to maintain a diversified worldwide portfolio in which recovery situations and the use of gearing will be given special emphasis.

MANAGERS

KLEINWORT BENSON

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

For a copy of the 1986 Report and Accounts available in April, please write to The Secretary,

20 Fenchurch Street, London EC3P 3DB

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- Birmingham Executive Airways:**
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 - * operates twice daily from Birmingham to Copenhagen, Geneva, Milan and Zurich
 - * has been awarded route development grants of £1.8m for flights to Amsterdam, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt and Stuttgart subject to an increase in the equity base
 - * is raising £380,000 by a Rights Issue to existing Shareholders

For a copy of the prospectus, post this coupon or telephone Norman Rowland, Smith Keen Cutler on 021-643 9977 during usual business hours.

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Please send me the Birmingham Executive Airways PLC Offer for Subscription.

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DOES IT AGAIN

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&
LOCKTON RETAIL STORES plc
TOTAL OVER £8,000,000

Both offers have been extended until further notice
 Shares will be allocated and certificates posted on Monday 17th March in respect of all valid applications received by 3.00 p.m. on that day.

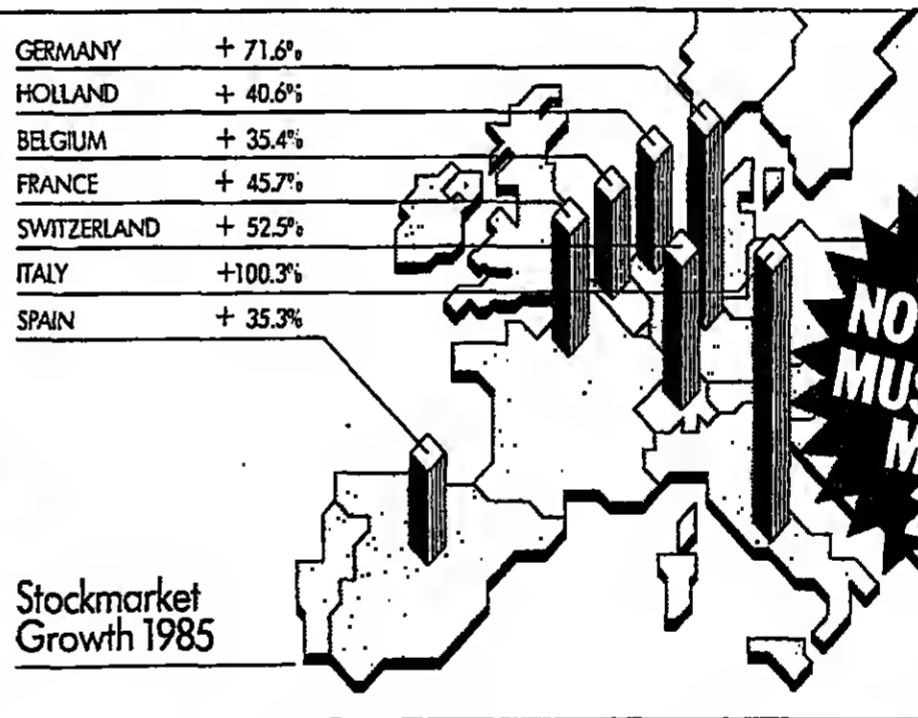
Applications received on or after Tuesday 18th March 1986 will be considered in the light of the Budget statement.

For further information, phone Guinness Mahon on (01) 623 9333 - 24 hour service.

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ANNOUNCING AN IMPORTANT NEW UNIT TRUST

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Simply complete the application form below, or call our Unit Trust Dealers on 01-638 0478.

The estimated gross starting yield on the launch price of 50p per unit is 1.5% p.a. Remember, the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

Take advantage of our launch offer and discount (see below) and of Europe's continuing prospects for growth.

General Information for Investors.

Acknowledgement will be sent and certificates issued within 30 days. Unit prices and yield are published daily in leading national newspapers. Units can be sold back to the Managers at not less than the current bid price calculated to a formula approved by the Department of Trade and Industry.

An initial management charge of 3.25% on the assets (equivalent to 5% of the issue price) is included in the price of units and a service charge of an annual rate of 1.1% (+ V.A.T.) of the value of the Trust is deducted from the Trust's gross income, although the Trust Deed allows a maximum annual charge of 2% (+ V.A.T.).

The Trust Deed permits investment in traded options and in second markets within the guidelines laid down by the Department of Trade and Industry.

The Trust's income distribution date is 1st April in respect of the period ending 31st February. The first distribution is scheduled for 1st April 1987.

Remuneration payable to qualified intermediaries and fees are available on request. Trustees: Midland Bank Trust Company Limited, 119 Old Broad Street, London EC2M 1AQ. Managers: Britannia Unit Trust Managers Limited, Telephone: 01-638 0478. Registered Office: 80 Colman Street, London EC2R 3LD. Member of The Unit Trust Association.

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If you'd like to know more about the Family Inheritance Trust, fill in and return the coupon below.

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Date of Birth _____
 Are you a London Life policyholder already? Yes/No _____
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London Life

(If you prefer, you can call Jeremy Ward on 0800-717111 - free of charge - to discuss your requirements personally)

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To: BRITANNIA UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LIMITED 74, 78 Finsbury Pavement, London EC2A 1JD TT 1978

I wish to invest _____ (minimum £500) in the Britannia European Growth Trust at the Fixed Price Offer of 50p per unit and claim the special launch discount, as appropriate. A cheque is enclosed payable to Britannia Unit Trust Managers Limited.

1% Discount for investments of £500 up to £4999.
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I We are over 18 and understand that my application must arrive by closing date for the offer, Friday 21st March, 1986.

Regular Monthly Savings Plan
 Please tick box for information
 £25 minimum investment per month
 This offer is not available to residents of Eire.

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 Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms _____ BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE
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 Signature _____ Date _____

Please tick box if you are an existing Britannia unitholder.

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COMPLETE THE PICTURE BEFORE APRIL 9



FINAL BRITISH TELECOM SHARE INSTALMENT IS DUE NOW.

If you are one of the 1.6 million people who hold shares in British Telecom, you will remember that payment for these shares is made to the Government in three instalments. The first two payments have already been made and the last instalment of 40p a share is due to be paid not later than 3.00pm on Wednesday April 9, 1986.

You will shortly receive a request to pay the final instalment which will give details of the exact amount due and how it should be paid. If you have not received this request by Monday March 17, please contact Lloyds Bank Registrars (between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday) on this LinkLine number: LinkLine 0345 414141

BT has recently paid an interim dividend of 3p on each of the shares you hold. A cheque for this will have been sent to you, unless you instructed the company to pay dividends direct to your bank.

You may like to know that the next dividend is expected to be paid in September 1986.

BT's enquiry units can be contacted, with any other questions on your shareholding (between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday) on the following numbers: LinkLine 0345 010505 0345 010707

These LinkLine numbers enable you to call from anywhere in the UK for the price of a local call.

For daily information on the British Telecom share price, call Shareline on: Belfast (0232) 8030 Birmingham 021-246 8056 Bristol (0273) 215444 Cardiff (0222) 8037 Edinburgh 031-447 0333 Glasgow 041-248 4400 Leeds (0532) 3038 Liverpool 051-498 0737 London 01-246 8022 Manchester 061-246 9050 British Telecom Investor Relations Office: 01-336 6863

Not-so-taxing divorce

MAINTENANCE

For all those divorced couples who constantly battle with the intricacies of tax and maintenance payments, the Inland Revenue is coming to the rescue.

From April 6 larger maintenance payments can be made without income tax being deducted by the payer. This is because the Government has decided for the first time since 1982 to increase substantially the limits for "small maintenance payments".

Small maintenance payments are weekly or monthly payments under a UK court order made:

- by one former spouse to another, or
- to any person under 21 for his or her benefit, maintenance or education, or
- to any person for the benefit, maintenance of education of a person under 21.

The limits on payments due from April 6 are increased in the first two cases to £48 a week or £208 a month. The current limits are £33 a week or £143 a month. Payments in the third instance are increased from their limits of £18 a week or £78 a month to £23 a week or £108 a month.

Cathy Madgin, a chartered accountant with a London solicitors' firm, commented: "The increase in the small maintenance payments will result in considerable cash-flow advantages to those who receive amounts up to the new limits."

A former wife, for example, may be liable for tax on the maintenance she receives. However, if it is a small maintenance payment, she receives the amount gross and does not have to wait for a refund of tax from the Revenue. If children are involved, the cash-flow advantages of small maintenance payments correctly worded in a court order are even more apparent.

Cash-flow benefits for some women

Winnie now actually receives £5,000 from Henry. Her cash flow is appreciably better. She will have to pay the tax but not until the end of the year.

However, if the court order were more carefully worded, there could actually be a saving of tax and not just an improvement in cash flow.

Covered by their personal allowances

Payments should be expressed to be "to the children" and not "to Winnie for the children's benefit". If this is done, the income paid directly to the children would be their income for income tax purposes.

In the examples, the incomes of Winnie and the children would be covered by their respective personal allowances resulting in an overall tax saving of £463.

EXAMPLE C:

	Winnie	Child	Child
Maintenance	£5,000	2,488	1,252
Personal Allowance	2,488	2,205	2,205
Tax payable	NI	NI	NI

Henry's tax position remains the same and he obtains full tax relief on payments made. If the maintenance were increased to £208 gross a month each, they would still be small maintenance payments.

EXAMPLE A:

Henry's position:	
Total Income	£15,000
Less: Maintenance for Winnie	£5,000
Single person's allowance	£2,205
Taxable Income	£7,795
Henry pays tax at 30% on	£2,338
Tax deducted on maintenance	NI
Winnie's position:	
Maintenance	£5,000
Less: Single person's allowance	£2,205
Additional personal allowance	£1,250
Taxable Income	£3,450
Winnie is liable to tax at 30%	£1,035

Henry earns £15,000 a year. Winnie is not working. Neither has any unearned income. They have two children under 16 who live with Winnie. The court orders Henry to pay Winnie £5,000 "for her benefit".

But Henry has deducted £1,500 tax on Winnie's maintenance and she actually receives only £3,500. She has therefore suffered too much tax and must reclaim the overpaid amount (£1,037) from the Revenue.

To do this, Henry has to supply a "certificate of deduction of tax" with every payment he makes. Winnie must then send these to her tax office with her own claim form to enable her to get the balance back from the Revenue. This can be time-consuming and can result in immense cash-flow problems.

If a court order takes advantage of the small maintenance payments, £424 a month can now be paid gross to a wife — the court order would spell out that payments are £208 a month for the wife and £108 a month payable "to the wife for the benefit of" every child.

In our example Henry could, with the increase in limits, make his payments under the small maintenance provisions.

Winnie now actually receives £5,000 from Henry. Her cash flow is appreciably better. She will have to pay the tax but not until the end of the year.

However, if the court order were more carefully worded, there could actually be a saving of tax and not just an improvement in cash flow.

Covered by their personal allowances

Payments should be expressed to be "to the children" and not "to Winnie for the children's benefit". If this is done, the income paid directly to the children would be their income for income tax purposes.

In the examples, the incomes of Winnie and the children would be covered by their respective personal allowances resulting in an overall tax saving of £463.

EXAMPLE C:

	Winnie	Child	Child
Maintenance	£5,000	2,488	1,252
Personal Allowance	2,488	2,205	2,205
Tax payable	NI	NI	NI

Henry's tax position remains the same and he obtains full tax relief on payments made. If the maintenance were increased to £208 gross a month each, they would still be small maintenance payments.

In the examples, the incomes of Winnie and the children would be covered by their respective personal allowances resulting in an overall tax saving of £463.

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Tax payable	NI	NI	NI

Henry's tax position remains the same and he obtains full tax relief on payments made. If the maintenance were increased to £208 gross a month each, they would still be small maintenance payments.

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Retailers on trail of £5m

BUSINESS EXPANSION

BES offerings available this week include First Retail Stores, which is looking for up to £5 million to start trading as a diversified retail business operating under franchise arrangements from freehold and long leasehold premises.

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One of the company's consultants, Sir Anthony Jolliffe, will, through his company, Management for Industry, be paid £7,500 for "up to 20 days a year". This works out at £375 a day assuming he does the full 20 days. However, seen in the overall context of total fees paid to directors and consultants of £17,500 a year, it does not seem as if the management will be taking an excessive amount.

Perhaps one criticism of this issue is that, as it stands in the prospectus, it is short on full-time management. Alan Courts, of sponsors Robert Fraser, and one of the directors of First Retail, says: "Cyril Spencer, a highly experienced retailer and City figure, will be taking a direct interest in the management of the company, especially in the early stages, and he has a large management back-up in the Youngs Franchise Group, from which key personnel can be made available to the company until such time as its activities warrant taking on a full-time operations manager."

If First Retail raises only the minimum £500,000 subscription, the issue looks expensive, having total expenses of £93,000 — a ratio of nearly 19 per cent. However, this improves as more money is raised. The sponsors are on 01-493 3211.

Meanwhile, under threat in the Budget, the BES hotel mania continues. The Leeds-based York Trust Ltd is looking for a mere 1450,000 to add 24 new bedrooms to the Bridge Inn at Walsford, near Weatherby.

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RUGBY UNION: FOUROUX EMPHASIZES DISCIPLINE IN HUNT FOR THE ENGLISH FOX

French wary of complacency trap

From David Hands Rugby Correspondent Paris

England venture into the French backyard at Parc des Princes today like a fox into a well-protected hen coop: they will either escape with the French cockerel squawking loudly and doubtless indignantly about penalties, or they will receive the full blast of the farmer's shotgun. Most of the French think it will be the latter, which is what disturbs Jacques Fouroux, their coach, so much.

"I wish," he told French reporters this week, "you would criticize us more." Over-confidence, however justified, may be England's ally in a match where both countries contest the same prize, at the very least, of this season's five nations' championship.

But if they are to win, England must capitalize on their assets much more than they have at any stage during the last three seasons. It is a significant comment on this England team that, at the end of the championship, we do not yet know how well they can perform, owing to their persistence in allowing the opposition back into the match.

Fouroux emphasizes the point: "The scoreboard often dictates the kind of rugby you play," he said. "At 17-15 in Cardiff we were not able to play the kind of expansive game we wanted to. One interception could have changed everything. In order to play that kind of rugby you need to be calm and composed and have some points on the board."

To this end he has underlined the need for discipline among his players so they may set out in June for their carousel around Argentina, Australia and New Zealand (which incorporates four internationals) with the confidence derived from being European champions.

If England are to win they must do two things: tackle at source before the French forwards build up too much momentum and draw the sting from the French back row by tying them down close to the set pieces. It is a hefty requirement and demands a far higher work-rate away from scrummage and lineout from



Warming up for the cauldron: England players in training near Versailles yesterday

the tight forwards than they have shown hitherto. Moreover, they will have to become accustomed to the barrage of sound which will greet them throughout the game. Only three England players, Winterbottom, Colclough and Underwood, have appeared at Parc des Princes before, though some of the newcomers - Richards and Rees, for example, whose role today is vital to England's cause at lineout and in the loose - have the temperament to make light of it. After training yesterday at La Boulie they paid the stadium a visit to get some kind of impression of an arena which will be seething with noise today.

Conditions will be ideal for a running game but it is worth remembering how France played against Ireland in Paris in January. They kept the game tight for an hour, using

up the Irish defence until the moment came to let slip the backs, just as the great Welsh side of the 1970s did. France believe they will have parity at the set scrum and a slight lineout advantage and that England will not match them in their dynamic approach.

"Our forwards can do things the English forwards cannot," Fouroux said. "We have hands." He may be right but England will be seeking to turn the French forwards by the use of back row, scrum half and blind side wing; if they can impose themselves at the set pieces (in a way they did against another dynamic side, the Scots), then Blanco's game this season has not been so fireproof against good technical kicking that he may not be as found wanting.

As always it is the simple things that will matter: finding touch, chasing kicks, putting

the ball in front of the man in a way which England have not done very successfully so far. Another distinguished French player, France's Palmade, their leading referee, who retires after handling today's international at Lansdowne Road, said this week that French players have a tendency not to learn from past mistakes.

If England can induce their mistakes today and thus upset French equilibrium, then we may yet have a match on our hands which will dispatch the 1986 championship with a flourish. "French players accept decisions without trying to understand them," Palmade said. "And when a law is introduced, players try to find a way round it. That is a bad French habit. It means cheating and they end up losing their tempers." Derek Bevan,

in his first championship match, will have his hands full today, and it will be surprising if his interpretations do not play an important part in how the game develops. This has certainly been the case in most of this season's championship matches. But England were at least grateful that in him and his Welsh colleagues on the touchline, Clive Norling and Ken Rowlands, they have officials prepared to apply the laws as they are written, for good or ill.

The quiet determination pervading the quiet yesterday may not outweigh their lack of experience and the capacity of the French to make the most of their opportunities. France have not had a try scored against them in the championship since March, 1984, which argues a certain defensive skill. I expect them to win again today.

Ireland want to salvage pride

From Gerald Davies, Dublin

Unlike the other three countries who play this afternoon, Ireland, who face Scotland at Lansdowne Road, have no direct interest in the outcome at the top of the five nations championship. Yet last year they were the champions and, but for a draw against France, course two years ago, they were celebrating a grand slam of victories. But they have not won a game this season and are at the bottom of the table. Scotland will know exactly how it feels, of course, but Ireland have been celebrating a grand slam of victories. They lost all their matches and failed to win a point.

It could well be that last season was a tiresome hiccup for the progress of the boys in blue as it would appear that they are setting some kind of pace this year for the others to follow. They are a much lauded team. On the other hand, their present success could simply mean that the Reds did the selectors a handsome favour in that trial of theirs by turning on the heat to beat the probable Scottish team by 41-10. The pre-Christmas plan had to be hurriedly changed. That must seem an age ago, but the chance plays as much a part in determining matters as anything that can be devised in any coach's or selector's philosophy.

But with Ian McGeechan's club, the Glasgow Warriors, one of the titans - Derrick Grant is in charge - it may not be entirely a matter of luck that Scotland are playing the way they do. He was one of the best of players in the seventies and he must wish for more of the kind of inventive running of which he himself was quite a master. Keith Robertson, who comes in for the injured Duncan on the wing, is of similar style.

They are three-quarters together, and the strength of this squad is not only in the players whose pervasive influence is a major factor in their success. Jeffrey Calder and Beattie are mentioned, inseparably, as were Spillane, Carr and Matthews last year. Ireland must look for a new line of attack now. With Matthews unavailable and Spillane dropped, only the redoubtable Carr remains. Anderson, who was once in the team as lock, was dropped, but he now returns as No. 8.

Orris back to lend a modicum of stability to a team that has been troubled by Ireland's juggernaut. Scotland are going to look to take advantage here in the way the 1984 side undoubtedly would have done. Not that this side is more balanced, but it will move a lot more than '84. But that 10-minute spell in Cardiff when they exerted pressure on the Welsh line showed that if they have a mind to they will play a tight game.

Ward is back at stand-off half and most recently played for Ireland on the day Scotland won the triple crown two years ago. On his day he can create something out of nothing. He has good support. Mullin is the most stylish centre in the home countries. Kiernan is forceful, Ringland has the power and speed, and MacNeill has an eye for the counterattack.

Scotland can also boast similar qualities in their players. But today, for Scotland, provides the moment for all the good that has gone before, when they see whether they can cope not only with the Irish team who will try to salvage some pride in front of Lansdowne Road crowd, but also whether they can withstand the pressure that comes from knowing that there is at least a share of the championship at stake.

Tennis links with S Africa could threaten Games

Frankfurt

The Olympic Games are about to discover that with tennis they have invited an embarrassing house guest to Seoul. It is evident from Eastern European and Third World representatives attending the first international congress of Sport For All here that they will be a protest and potential boycott against players on the anti-apartheid banned list. That list includes Boris Becker, the Wimbledon champion, who played in South Africa as a junior.

Also on the banned list are such players as Aris, Bale, Buhning, Connors, Gerasiatis, Giliashvili, Gostandars, Mayotte, McNamee, Teltser and Vilas. There can be no doubt that tennis poses a far more serious threat to the stability of the Games than rugby, a non-Olympic sport that most sport, as opposed to elite sport, is an area for increasing communication, both nationally and internationally.

Time for action on cash allegation

resolve. South Africa makes Soviet blood boil even faster than professional sports does. Criticism is mounting around Olan Cassell, the American former Olympic 400-metre relay gold medal winner, who is vice-president of the International Amateur Athletics Federation. It is understood that Cassell has a commercial involvement with Ted Turner's cable television deal with the Soviet Union, which is financing the Goodwill Games in Moscow. This involvement could create a conflict of interest with his official position.

Cassell has often been considered to have an emotional position in matters relating to athletics finance. Many people, not least Dr August Kirsch, an IAAF council member from West Germany, believe that Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF president, should ask Cassell to state his position in relation to the Turner project. The IAAF itself may ultimately be called into question over the Goodwill Games, which by issuing direct invitation to competitors will bypass the normal channels of sporting body authority. It is too early yet to judge whether the Games are no more than a Soviet attempt to regain lost prestige following their ill-advised Los Angeles boycott, or a long-term attempt to provide an alternative Olympics.

Juan Samaranch probably made a mistake by going to Colorado last year to attend at the signing of the American-



David Miller

Soviet sporting concord, finding subsequently that he had witnessed the planting of what could become a poisonous vine. The Sport For All congress held under the patronage of the IOC and attended by 153 participants from 63 countries, has demonstrated something which no government can afford to ignore: that mass sport, as opposed to elite sport, is an area for increasing communication, both nationally and internationally.

How to win medals and lose friends

There were more than 30 conference papers from countries as dissimilar as Indonesia, Sweden, Kenya, East Germany, Brazil and Japan. As is often the case at such conferences, the real benefit lay in discussions at meal times, and what the United States had better realize quickly is the loss of its international goodwill because of the swiftness of its Olympic committee to donate even a small portion of the huge profits to international funds.

The USOC may have lost more in friends than it won in medals in 1984, as George Allen may also lose. Allen is chairman of the President's Council of Fitness and Sport, and was lobbying here for the United States to stage the second congress of Sport For All in 1988. There were people at the conference laughing when Allen, a former football and track coach, was talking about his involvement and experience "with the best teams that money can buy". America may be able to win medals in a long-term attempt to provide an alternative Olympics.

Juan Samaranch probably made a mistake by going to Colorado last year to attend at the signing of the American-

TODAY'S TEAMS IN PARIS

Table listing rugby players for France, including S Blanco, J-B Lafond, P Seba, D Chervet, E Bonnave, G Laporte, P Berbizier, P Marocco, D Dubroca, J-P Garuet, E Champ, F Haget, J Condom, D Erbani, and J-L Joinel.

TODAY'S TEAMS AT LANSDOWNE ROAD

Table listing rugby players for England, including G H Davies, M E Harrison, K G Simms, F J Clough, R Underwood, N D McNeill, J P Chilcott, S E Brain, G S Pearce, P Winterbottom, W A Dooley, M J Colclough, G W Rees, and D Richards.

TODAY'S TEAMS AT LANSDOWNE ROAD

Table listing rugby players for Ireland, including H P MacNeill, T M Ringland, B J Mullin, M J Kiernan, K D Crossan, A J P Ward, M T Bradley, P A Orr, C F Fitzgerald, D C Fitzgerald, R D Morrow, E J McCull, D G Lenihan, N J Carr, and W A Anderson.

TODAY'S TEAMS AT LANSDOWNE ROAD

Table listing rugby players for Scotland, including A G Hastings, K W Robertson, D Johnston, S Hastings, G P Baird, J Rutherford, R J Ledlaw, A K Brewster, C T Deans, I G Milne, J Jeffrey, A Campbell, I A M Paxton, F Calder, and J R Beattie.

Heaton given outing by Rosslyn Park

Rosslyn Park will be without Ripley and Jernyn for the Merit Table match against London Welsh at Rochampton today. Both players will be preparing to accompany the England sevens team to New South Wales on Monday, and Ripley's absence gives Heaton his first senior appearance of the season in the second row.

Jernyn is replaced at stand-off by Roberts. Osborne returns to the wing and Ager comes in at centre.

Davies, a late replacement for Bradley in last Saturday's John Player Cup tie against Bath, retains his place in the London Welsh side.

Orwin, the Gloucester captain, will miss the match at Orrell in the hope that his leg injury will have cleared up in time for next Saturday's John Player Cup quarter-final at Loughborough.

Bristol's selectors make three changes for the game against Plymouth Albion. Morley returns from Gloucestershire duty to play on the wing, and the vice-captain, Fothergill, replaces in the second row after his injury. Palmer comes in as hooker in place of the injured Bogier.

REPLACEMENTS: 18 B Haines (Toulon); 19 J E Redfern (Bath); 20 A G Reddell (Wessex); 21 P A W Simpson (Sale); 22 P W Cook (Nottingham); 23 P J Rainey (Bath).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J A Palmer (Bath); 17 S Barnes (Bath); 18 J J Hill (Bath); 19 P A G Reddell (Wessex); 20 A W Simpson (Sale); 21 P W Cook (Nottingham); 22 P J Rainey (Bath).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J J McCoy (Glasgow); 17 H T Hester (Glasgow); 18 A B Rowan (Glasgow); 19 D A White (Glasgow); 20 S G Johnston (Watsonians); 21 P W Dods (Glasgow); 22 P W Dods (Glasgow).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 N A Rowan (Watsonians); 17 G G Callender (Kilsyth); 18 D A White (Glasgow); 19 S G Johnston (Watsonians); 20 S G Wylie (Stewart-Melville FP); 21 P W Dods (Glasgow).

WEEKEND FOOTBALL, RUGBY AND OTHER FIXTURES

Table of football fixtures for the first division, including Arsenal v West Ham, Birmingham City v Tottenham, Coventry City v Sheffield Wed, Luton Town v Cardiff, etc.

Table of football fixtures for the second division, including Barnsley v Bradford, Blackpool v Millwall, Brighton v Stoke, etc.

Table of football fixtures for the third division, including Blackpool v Wigan, Bristol City v Walsley, Bury v Bournemouth, etc.

Table of football fixtures for the fourth division, including Cambridge Utd v Southport, Chester v Preston, Crawley v Rochdale, etc.

Table of football fixtures for the Scottish premier division, including Celtic v Dundee Utd, Aberdeen v Hibernian, Dundee v Rangers, etc.

Table of rugby union fixtures, including international matches like Ireland v Scotland, and club matches like Bath v London Welsh.

Table of bowls fixtures, including Undercover events and champions, and other sport fixtures like badminton and judo.

Table of tomorrow's fixtures, including football, rugby union, and hockey matches.

CRICKET

Robinson stakes claim as Gattling gets back into the groove

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Bridgetown, Barbados

England fell away after a promising start in their match against Barbados here yesterday. Slack, Robinson, Smith and Gattling all got a start, only to get out, so that by mid-afternoon, at 131 for 4, Botham was already in, searching for four. Of those who had batted, Gattling, leading the side in Gower's absence, played much the best, seemingly unaffected by his recent injury.

Twenty minutes into the afternoon he hooked Estrick for four, a fine stroke that should have done him a power of good. But no sooner had he received a nasty lifting ball from Greene, bowling at a slightly faster medium pace than Reifer, that had him caught at third slip off the glove. This was unlucky, and a great pity.

For the third wicket Smith and Gattling had added 52, 36 of them to Gattling, Smith was then caught at the wicket, playing loosely at a short off-side ball. This was not unlucky, it was simply a bad stroke. Seven weeks into the tour Smith has yet to make 30 and he could have only one more chance of doing so, in the second innings of this match.

ENGLAND vs First Innings
R R Marsh c Payne b Greene 40
W H Slack c Payne b Greene 42
G R Smith c Smith b Greene 27
W H Gattling c Best b Greene 36
P Wilby b Greene 27
B Botham not out 151
Extras (b 1, w 2, nb 7) 10
Total (5 wickets) 314

New Zealand sent spinning

Auckland (Reuter) - The Australian spinner Greg Matthews swept through New Zealand's top order, capturing three wickets without yielding a run, before bad light ended play on the second day of the third Test yesterday.

When stumps were drawn 15 minutes early, New Zealand stood at 75 for three, chasing Australia's first innings score of 314. In a disastrous last session, New Zealand lost the wickets of Edgar, Rutherford and Crowe, with the score on 73, all to Matthews' off-spin.

Edgar and his opening partner, Wright, had given New Zealand a brisk start against the Australian pace attack but the collapse began when Matthews and Bright entered the scene. Edgar was judged left before playing back to a delivery which

New cap spurs Sri Lanka

Colombo (Reuter) - Sri Lanka, who were crushed by an innings in the first Test match, came back strongly on the first day of the second Test yesterday to dismiss Pakistan for 132. This is the lowest total by any country against Pakistan in 20 matches since they gained Test status. Wpco had light ended play 70 minutes early, Sri Lanka had replied with 21 for no wicket.

The day belonged to Sri Lanka's left-arm opening bowler, Kosal Kuruppuarachchi, aged 20, on his first Test appearance. Pakistan, after being put into bat, were in trouble from the second over when Kuruppuarachchi, the edge of the bat, and Mudassar's bat with his third ball. De Mel then struck a double blow, trapping Qasim for three and, five balls later, having Javed brilliantly caught for

nought by the wicketkeeper, de Alwis, who ran round to backswing square leg to hold the catch off a miscued ball. The touring team had slipped to 12 for three in only seven overs.

JUDO

Lightweights best bet

With Karen Briggs, the world bantamweight champion, hampered by a foot injury, the British team will look to two other lightweights for the best chances of medals in the women's European championships at Crystal Palace this weekend.

IN BRIEF

US committee to reimburse Olympic costs

Lausanne (Reuter) - The United States Olympic Committee is to pay the International Olympic Committee \$4.2 million (about £2.9 million) out of the \$250 million profits from the 1984 Los Angeles Games, the IOC said yesterday.

HOCKEY

Western back in attack

Two brothers, Alistair and Gordon McGinn, will be on opposite sides tomorrow when Southgate meet Wimbledon in the fourth round of the Hockey Association Cup at Parkside, Neasden, in north London.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL
MILWAUKEE: Milwaukee Bucks (29-56) beat Philadelphia 76ers (28-57) 107-95.
MINNESOTA: Minnesota Timberwolves (25-52) beat Chicago Bulls (24-53) 101-94.

NORDIC SKIING

OLDFIELD (NORWAY): Olaf Tjundheim (55) won women's 100m race, 1:53.28.
OLDFIELD (NORWAY): Olaf Tjundheim (55) won women's 100m race, 1:53.28.

RACKETTS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Catherine Open: Singles - Queen's Club W R Brown (US) 7-6, 6-4.
Queen's Club W R Brown (US) 7-6, 6-4.

CRICKET

BARBADOS: Barbados beat England 2-1.
Barbados beat England 2-1.

FOOTBALL

WALSLEY: Walsley beat Walsley 2-1.
Walsley beat Walsley 2-1.

GOLF

WALSLEY: Walsley beat Walsley 2-1.
Walsley beat Walsley 2-1.

TENNIS



With defeat staring her in the face, Claudia Kohde-Kilsch, of West Germany, the No. 3 seed, eventually goes down 6-0, 6-7, 2-6, to Kathy Rinaldi, the No. 10 seed, in Dallas.

Change of course may favour Kelly

The 77th Milan to San Remo race, which opens the season of spring classics today, promises to be a true battle of the giants. For the first time in many years most of the world's top cyclists will be setting out this morning from Milan cathedral on the 182-mile race.

England kept waiting

England still do not know whether their international match in the Soviet Union in 12 days' time will go ahead. The squad is due to be named next week, but the Russian authorities are insisting that England fly to Moscow rather than directly to Tbilisi, where the game is being played.

Inter-Services won by WRNS

A penalty stroke by Smithyman in the second half of extra time gave the WRNS back the Inter-Services championship trophy, which they last held in 1984. The final match yesterday in Portsmouth between WRNS and WRAF was close, and WRAF might have won in the first 10 minutes.

United hoping

Manchester United are hoping to arrange a match with the Brazil national team, who have Zico and Socrates in their team. Negotiations are well under way for the pre-season game to take place at Old Trafford on Wednesday, August 6.

Share plan

Birmingham City and Walsall are to share training facilities next season. Walsall will move to Birmingham's training ground at Edmond on the outskirts of Birmingham. An extra pitch will be made to accommodate them. The move will cut costs for both clubs.

Bruton dies

Jack Bruton, the former Burnley, Blackburn Rovers and England winger, has died at his Bournemouth home. He was 82. Bruton was the manager at Blackburn and for six years from 1950 at Bournemouth. He was capped for England in the late 1920s.

FOOTBALL

Only top of table have an appetite for the leftovers

By Clive White

English football is lurching towards another financial crisis this weekend. Only now will it be clear, more widespread implications of Europe's ban on English clubs be realized. The glit of FA Cup and Milk Cup ties that have been hurriedly consumed in the past fortnight have left only a handful of clubs with any great appetite for the season's leftovers. And that will almost certainly be reflected in attendance figures.

Because of the likelihood that England's stay in the wilderness will be extended by at least another year, the importance of the most popular route to Europe, is greatly diminished. Leading clubs, other than those realistically contesting the championship (and Everton are trying their hardest to make it a one-horse race) will now only be playing for the sake of pride and nominal Canon prize money.

Only four first division clubs this weekend may view their matches with a definite positive outlook and they are naturally the four leading clubs, Everton, Liverpool, Manchester United and Chelsea. Fortunately, the long arm of relegation, lengthening the season, has not yet reached the three-point system, will lay its cold, invigorating hand on a few other clubs but generally there must be a feeling of apathy without notable exceptions.

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS

First division

- Arsenal (5) v W Ham (6)
 Arsenal welcome back Ludd on injury. West Ham are unchanged.
 Birmingham (21) v Spurs (11)
 Tottenham, who have given Perryman a free transfer, are unchanged. Everton, who have conceded 13 goals in four matches, give Garon, on loan from Manchester United, his home debut.
 City (15) v Sheff W (8)
 City return after an enforced absence of eight games for Coventry. Wednesday should be unchanged.

Second division

- Charlton (4) v Ptsmth (2)
 Charlton should be unchanged. Queens Park Rangers, who have conceded 12 goals in four matches, give Garon, on loan from Manchester United, his home debut.
 Luton (7) v Oxford (18)
 Oxford rely on the side which took them to Wembley in 1985. Luton, who have been cup winners, are unchanged.
 Man C (12) v Watfd (14)
 City are unchanged despite having lost their last three games and conceding eight goals.
 Newcastle (10) v Ipswich (19)
 Newcastle, on loan from Hibernian, makes his debut in what is his final game.
 Nottm F (9) v A Villa (20)
 Forest make five changes. Sutton, Fice, Carr and Mudge are dropped.
 QPR (16) v Man U (3)
 United, who have dropped Hughes, have yet to decide on whether Devaopart, their latest signing, will be included.

Two sides with big say

Motherwell and Clydebank, two clubs without a hope of winning the premier division championship, may have a big say in the determination of the title.

United hoping

Manchester United are hoping to arrange a match with the Brazil national team, who have Zico and Socrates in their team. Negotiations are well under way for the pre-season game to take place at Old Trafford on Wednesday, August 6.

Tough for Warrington

Warrington Town today face the most difficult test of their ambition to reach the Wembley final of the FA Vase for the first time. The Lancashire club's semi-final opponents are Halesowen Town, the holders and most successful Vase side of recent years.

Share plan

Birmingham City and Walsall are to share training facilities next season. Walsall will move to Birmingham's training ground at Edmond on the outskirts of Birmingham. An extra pitch will be made to accommodate them. The move will cut costs for both clubs.

GOLF: RYDER CUP PLAYER DISCOVERS THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEAN TOURS

Tway ahead, Way behind

The difficulties and differences of the US Tour compared with its European counterpart were illustrated by the experience of young Paul Way, of Tonbridge, in scoring 84 in the first round of the Bay Hill Classic on Thursday. The Ryder Cup player finished last but one out of 114 competitors, only David Hales, of Augusta, scoring worse with an 85.

even when the second round was postponed yesterday because of lightning and a torn knee. Lost before he appeared to give up hope, Way was shaking his head at his inability to keep the ball straight in the wind and away from the water, trees and sand.

Patricia Johnson, England golf champion last year at both match-play and stroke-play, made a promising start to the new season at Roehampton yesterday. With a two-round total of 133 (76/77) she secured a one stroke lead in the Gold Cup over her playing partner, Jill Thornhill, a former British champion.

enabled her to match Mrs Thornhill's best four. In the end Miss Johnson had to share the honours with Katherine Harridge, of Cowdry Park, who added a splendid 75 to her morning 78.

Christina Haylar, the young Hampshire champion, had enjoyed an unaccustomed hour of limelight in the morning. With a round of 74, one over par, she led the lead at lunch, by one stroke from Susie Moorcraft, an English international, and by two strokes from Miss Johnson and Mrs Thornhill.

Under the approving eye of her tutor and playing partner, Vivien Saunders, Miss Haylar

Honours shared at Roehampton

By John Hennessy

Miss Johnson seemed to have the unaccountably in her pocket - four strokes to spare over Mrs Thornhill with five holes to play - but she dropped shots at the 14th, 16th and 17th, with a variety of indiscretions, and only a fortuitous hook off a tree at the last

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

DEVON & CORNWALL
 EDDYHORN on Feb 28, 1986. Mrs. Eddyhorn, 65, of 10, The Green, Eddystone, Devon, died on Feb 28, 1986. Burial on March 1, 1986, at Eddystone Church. Contact: 01323 31233.

KENT
 BENTON on Feb 28, 1986. Mrs. Benton, 72, of 15, The Green, Eddystone, Devon, died on Feb 28, 1986. Burial on March 1, 1986, at Eddystone Church. Contact: 01323 31233.

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SHAREHOLDERS in London. Contact: 01-462 3177.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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SALES & MARKETING

LONDON sales and marketing. Contact: 01-462 3177.

DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

OVERSEAS AIR PAIR AGENCY in London. Contact: 01-462 3177.

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ENTERTAINMENTS

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REGIONAL TV VARIATIONS

SATURDAY

BBC1 As London except WALSLEY 12.30am-1.00am News and Sport. 1.15-1.30am News and Sport. 1.35-1.50am News and Sport.

GRAMPAN As London except 12.00-1.00am News and Sport. 1.05-1.20am News and Sport. 1.25-1.40am News and Sport.

SAC As London except 12.00-1.00am News and Sport. 1.05-1.20am News and Sport. 1.25-1.40am News and Sport.

TVS As London except 12.00-1.00am News and Sport. 1.05-1.20am News and Sport. 1.25-1.40am News and Sport.

YORKSHIRE As London except 12.00-1.00am News and Sport. 1.05-1.20am News and Sport. 1.25-1.40am News and Sport.

SUNDAY

BBC1 As London except 12.00-1.00am News and Sport. 1.05-1.20am News and Sport. 1.25-1.40am News and Sport.

GRAMPAN As London except 12.00-1.00am News and Sport. 1.05-1.20am News and Sport. 1.25-1.40am News and Sport.

SAC As London except 12.00-1.00am News and Sport. 1.05-1.20am News and Sport. 1.25-1.40am News and Sport.

TVS As London except 12.00-1.00am News and Sport. 1.05-1.20am News and Sport. 1.25-1.40am News and Sport.

YORKSHIRE As London except 12.00-1.00am News and Sport. 1.05-1.20am News and Sport. 1.25-1.40am News and Sport.

Saturday

Weekend television and radio programmes Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

Sunday

- BBC 1
7.10 Open University...
8.30 Hunter's Gold...
9.00 Saturday SuperStore...

- TV-AM
6.55 Good Morning Britain...
7.30 The Wide Awake Club...
ITV/LONDON
8.25 No 73...



Bobby Davro: On the Box, on ITV at 6.30pm. Right: Fascinating Aid, on Channel 4, at 8.30pm

- BBC 2
6.50 Open University...
2.00 Film: The Woman on the Beach...
CHANNEL 4
1.10 Face of the Deep...
2.00 Film: Songs of the Islands...

- BBC 1
6.45 Open University...
8.55 Play School...
10.00 Asien Magazine...
10.55 Recovery Companies...

- TV-AM
6.55 Good Morning Britain...
7.50 The What's News?...
8.30 Jonathan Dimbleby...
ITV/LONDON
8.25 Wake Up London...



Holly Aird as the orphan with Rowena the seal in episode one of Seal Morning, on ITV, 5.00pm

- BBC 2
6.50 Open University...
2.00 International Rugby...
3.00 International Darts...
4.10 The Great Art Collection...

- CHANNEL 4
1.00 Irish Angle - Hands...
1.30 Face the Press...
2.00 Paul's Programme...
2.30 Film: Every Day's a Holiday...

- Radio 4
On long wave...
5.55 Shipping 6.00 News...
6.55 Farming 6.50 Prayer...
7.00 News 7.10 Today's Papers...

- Radio 3
On medium wave...
8.55 News, 7.00 News...
7.05 Afternoon Review...

- Radio 2
On medium wave...
On Radio 2, News on the hour...
Headlines 7.00, 7.30, 8.00...

- Radio 1
On medium wave...
As medium wave...
8.00 News, 7.00 News...

- Radio 4
On long wave...
5.55 Shipping 6.00 News...
6.55 Farming 6.50 Prayer...

- Radio 3
On medium wave...
On medium wave, VHF variations...
8.55 News, 7.00 News...

- Radio 1
On medium wave...
On medium wave, except for...
8.55 News, 7.00 News...

- Radio 4
On long wave...
5.55 Shipping 6.00 News...
6.55 Farming 6.50 Prayer...

- Radio 3
On medium wave...
8.55 News, 7.00 News...
7.05 Afternoon Review...

- Radio 2
On medium wave...
On Radio 2, News on the hour...
Headlines 7.00, 7.30, 8.00...

- Radio 1
On medium wave...
As medium wave...
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On long wave...
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6.55 Farming 6.50 Prayer...

- Radio 3
On medium wave...
On medium wave, VHF variations...
8.55 News, 7.00 News...

- Radio 1
On medium wave...
On medium wave, except for...
8.55 News, 7.00 News...

DIARY OF THE TIMES CLASSIFIED. Over 1.4 million of the most affluent people in the country read the classified columns of The Times. The following categories appear regularly every week, and are generally accompanied by relevant editorial articles. Use the coupon (right), and find out how easy, fast and economical it is to advertise in The Times Classified.

Comet shows its dark side

Darmstadt (Reuter) - Halley's Comet is much bigger and much blacker than expected... an official of the European Giotto space probe said yesterday after analysing photographs...

Fashion shows how high it's jumping



By Suzy Menkes Fashion Editor Liza Minnelli said it all: "British fashion is jumping right now, and that is why I am here."

Five thousand overseas buyers and international media people are in town to see the shows staged in giant tents pitched off Kings Road, Chelsea, under the auspices of the British Fashion Council...

London fashion has matured. The weird and wonderful clothes that are part of pop music culture are less of a draw. Tailoring made a strong return in yesterday's early shows...

Her sweeping princess line for coats and for dresses, which seemed to be having a revival. Betty Jackson scored a hit with her lively tailored jacket...

chic, complete with manicured poodles. Group designers Hyper Hyper let the side down by trailing off the London shows on Wednesday night with show that ran an hour late and proved that for some young British designers, growing up is hard to do.

Letter from Bonn Who is Flick's Frank Wills?

Now that the Chancellor himself has become the most powerful personage in the British media to ask what actually is the Flick Affair? We know it has to do with this vast firm said to have slipped cash illegally to political parties and which, as an optional extra in the more lurid accounts of the affair, also employed slave labour during the war...

Frank Johnson

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution to Puzzle No 16,993. A crossword puzzle grid with numbers and some letters filled in.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,994. A crossword puzzle grid with numbers and some letters filled in.

Another crossword puzzle grid with numbers and some letters filled in.

- ACROSS 1 District in need of replanning most of you call it (8).
- 2 A chirpy type but a boulder, men of intelligence bold (6).
- 3 An artist rejected style shown by a student as anti-government (10).
- 4 Used to stop the rift in Tennison's instrument? (4).
- 5 Tullian sailor's a very fine fellow (14,2,3,5).
- 6 Age shall not weary them, nor the years... (Binyon) (7).
- 7 Boaster who took tea noisily in the middle of Meredith's novel? (7).
- 8 In retrospect some phenomenon in unusually odd circumstances? (7).
- 9 But there's nothing unstable about those orographical features (15,9).
- 10 No sounding like some bells (14).
- 11 Declare Eeyore's appetite to be insatiable? (10).
- 12 No OK to define in a word this parliamentary closure (6).
- 13 U.S. General is about to pass on the slope (8).

Today's events Royal engagements Princess Margaret attends a concert at the Glaziers' Hall in aid of the London Hospital Medical College, 7.25. New exhibitions Pottery and Prints and Perks, history of weights and measures: James Dun's House, Schoolhill, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends May 24).

Anniversaries TODAY Births: Andrew Jackson, general and 7th President of the USA 1829-37; Warsaw, S Carolina, 1767; William Lamb, 2nd Viscount Melbourne, Prime Minister 1834, 1835-41, London 1779; Lady Augusta Gregory, playwright, poet and director of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, Roxborough, Co Galway, 1852; Emil von Behring, bacteriologist, Nobel laureate 1901, Hansdorf, Germany, 1854.

In the garden It is time to prime winter jasmine now that it has finished flowering. Cut out the old shoots, thin weak shoots and trim back the growths that carried flowers to about 3ins inches of their base. For best results train the jasmynes around a wigwam of three or four poles about 6ft high.

Weather forecast A moist southerly air-stream will persist over the British Isles. 6 am to midnight. London, SE, central E England, East Anglia, Midlands E, Channel Islands: Fog patches at first, sunny periods developing; wind S light or moderate; max temp 10C (50F).



Table with columns for location, time, and weather conditions. Includes 'High Tides' section with tide times for various locations like London Bridge, Aberdeen, and Belfast.

Roads London and the South East: A12: Lodge Avenue Bypass, Barking, closed. A10: Old Church Rd, Romford, roadworks between Valley Way and South St.

Portfolio For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 28).

Lighting-up time TODAY London 6.25 pm to 6.43 am Bristol 6.44 pm to 6.53 am Manchester 6.45 pm to 6.52 am

Table with columns for location, bank, and exchange rates. Includes 'The pound' section with rates for various countries like Australia, Austria, and Belgium.

Table with columns for location, temperature, and weather conditions. Includes 'Yesterday' section with temperatures at midday for various cities like Belfast, Birmingham, and Bristol.

Table with columns for location, time, and weather conditions. Includes 'New ferry' section mentioning the Harwich-Hook of Holland ferry route.

Table with columns for location, time, and weather conditions. Includes 'Around Britain' section with weather forecasts for various regions like East Coast, South Coast, and London.